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DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

Vol. XLIII, No. 41

Section 1

November 17, 1931.

FEDERAL TAXES

The press today says: "President Hoover will recommend increased taxes to Congress in December, according to Republican leaders who represented him yesterday as being opposed to a continuance of borrowing to pay current expenses and in favor of increasing revenues to wipe out at least in part the budget deficit, which apparently will exceed \$2,000,000,000 by the end of the fiscal year on June 30, unless tax legislation is adopted...."

SIGNOR GRANDI'S STATEMENT

The press today says: "Shortly after he had been received by President Hoover yesterday, immediately upon his arrival in Washington, Dino Grandi, Italy's Minister for Foreign Affairs, issued a public statement written in English of his own composition, in which he emphasized that his visit to the American capital was to further the cause of world cooperation in the present time of uncertainty and economic stress....To President Hoover Signor Grandi gave credit for having given a new turn to the inter-relationship of nations by his moratorium proposal of last June which had resulted, he said, in the responsible men of every country 'putting their heads together to find the best way out of the difficulties of the moment.'..."

BRITISH TARIFF PLANS

A London dispatch today states that the British Government yesterday inaugurated an economic war in defense of its industry. It announced the intention to create a tariff striking directly at the manufactured products of other nations. The report says: "By Friday of this week the British Board of Trade will have Parliamentary authority to impose an import duty of 100 per cent ad valorem on all manufactured goods from abroad. A measure to that effect was introduced in the House of Commons yesterday by Walter Runciman, president of the Board of Trade. It will be rushed through all Parliamentary stages during the next three days and, according to the government program, will receive royal assent Friday, when it will become immediately operative...."

MT. VERNON BOULEVARD

The Washington Post of November 15 said: "Months in advance of expectations and because of the sudden collapse of the last possible barrier to its successful opening, the Mount Vernon Memorial Boulevard will be ready for traffic about the first of the year. To make this the world's most advanced road, available to Washington motorists many weeks before the anticipated date, the United States Bureau of Public Roads and the Office of Public Buildings and Public Parks are racing to complete their respective projects, the highway itself and the Arlington Memorial Bridge. A neck-and-neck finish now is assured and the prospect of the road remaining closed after completion definitely vanishes...."

COLOMBIA ESTABLISHES CABINET POSTS

Imitating this Government, the Republic of Colombia has established new cabinet posts of agriculture and commerce, with a department for each, the Commerce Department at Washington reported November 12.

Section 2

Dairy
Profits

An editorial in Farm and Ranch for November 14 says: "The Federal Farm Board has called attention to the present increase in the price of dairy products and warns dairymen against overproduction. Profitable prices for dairy products tempts undue expansion and if the surplus in cold storage increases materially, the market will decline. The Farm Board suggests that dairymen continue to cull their herds, milking only profit-producing cows, and go slow in bringing new cows into their herds. As in every other industry there are ups and downs, high prices being followed by periods of depression due to overexpansion. If dairymen are wise they will satisfy themselves with the profits they are now receiving instead of trying to double them by increasing their production materially. Profits can only be increased by reducing cost of production and increasing consumption. The best way to reduce production cost is to throw out all poor producers and feed the better cows properly. The best way to increase consumption is to produce quality and advertise it."

Education

An editorial in The Ladies Home Journal for December says: "Some of the States, it is reported, are trying to relieve unemployment by forcing more children of working age into school this winter. But even so, according to the American Federation of Labor, child labor has gained 103,000 in the past two years. A more hopeful view of the advance in educational facilities is contained in several memorandums recently issued by the Office of Education of the Department of the Interior. For instance: The average American boy or girl of 1931 receives two more years of schooling than the child of 1914. His chances of going to high school, which were only one in ten in 1900, are now even; and his chances of college, which were one in thirty-three in 1900, are now one in six. Nearly 50,000 school buses carry 2,000,000 children 425,000 miles to and from 17,000 schools daily, at a cost of about \$40,000,000 a year. Indiana alone spent \$4,000,000 in 1930. Three out of four students earn their way through college. Sixty cents pays for one day's education for a child in the average city public school."

Farm Machinery

Cost and
Value

An editorial in Agricultural Engineering for November says: "Farm management men of the University of Georgia have obtained and published data on the cost and utilization of farm machinery in that State, taking into consideration the specific kinds and numbers of farm machines used on the farms studied, the sizes of farms, whether operated by horses or mules, and the separate cost factors involved. A particularly interesting comparison is drawn between the ten farms highest and the ten lowest in acreage per man, which is decidedly enlightening, and incidentally favorable, from the standpoint of net and labor income, to the higher acreages per man. But to bring out the full value of these figures, more data are necessary. No data are furnished on the influence on gross, net and labor income per farm of each individual item of equipment. We appreciate that such data will be difficult to get, but it is important and worth making an effort to secure. Cost is only one side of the question. Without knowing, as well, something about the earning power of each, or more accurately, its importance to the earning power of his whole production program, how is a farmer to intelligently decide between buying a new plow, drill, cultivator, feed grinder, or perhaps more land or fertilizer? How can he develop an efficient,

balanced production program without knowing the relative weights of the several factors involved? Data on what tractors, disk harrows, weeders, ensilage cutters and each other item of farm equipment can contribute to the net income of a farm under specific combinations of contingent factors must be made available. Here is a real problem in production economics for agricultural economists, engineers, or who can solve it."

Label Value

An editorial in Pennsylvania Farmer for November 14 says: "For many years two brothers have been producing high quality vegetables on adjoining farms. Until recently they packed one of their specialties under the same label. This product was always of the finest quality. Nothing but the best was shipped. Through the years they prospered, for their crops moved at good prices even in times of surplus. Recently the brothers decided to market their crops separately, one retaining the old brand, the other establishing a new one. The result was that the old established brand returned 25 cents a crate more than the new one. The commission man knew that one man's product was as good as the other's, but he could not persuade buyers to pay as much for the new brand as for the one backed by twenty years of unvarying quality."

Lumber Industry

Wilson Compton, secretary-manager, National Lumber Manufacturers Association, writing under the title "Has Forest Conservation Created a False Alarm?" in Scientific American for December, says: "The condition of the timber and lumber industries is perilous; in fact, it is ominous. In timber ownerships and the timber and lumber industries \$10,000,000,000 are invested, and they ordinarily furnish employment to hundreds of thousands of men in regions which offer no other industrial employment. The lumber industry has been in depression during much of the past decade, the present crisis being only an accentuation of its particular troubles by the general depression. Lumber stocks are excessive and yet lumber operations are 50 per cent less than in 1929, with the result that 150,000 men are out of work. Lumber production and consumption are at the lowest level in half a century. At no time in the last decade has lumber production been as much as 60 per cent of the installed capacity. This overcapacity has resulted in heavy and nearly continuous overproduction. The 1929 census determined the production of 1,167 sawmills which cut over 5,000,000,000 feet annually, as over 26,000,000,000 feet, or 70 per cent of the total cut of 36,000,000,000 feet. These mills--about 6 per cent of the total--could readily have produced more lumber than the total consumption of the United States in that year. Lumber prices of some of the principal species are today about where they were a quarter of a century ago. The average wholesale price for all species was \$16.54 a thousand feet in 1906 and \$22 in 1930, with almost continuous further declines since the middle of last year. During the past two years Douglas fir prices have fallen 35 per cent, southern pine 33 per cent, western pines 30 per cent, and southern hardwoods 40 per cent. Notwithstanding low lumber prices, the per capita consumption of lumber in the United States has fallen during the last decade from 500 to about 275 feet. So far this year it is proceeding at the rate of less than 150 feet. This decline is attributed in part to changing styles, customs, and industrial and housing standards and, in a large part at the moment, to the fact that residential building is only a third that of three years ago...."

Turkey
Growers of
New
England

An editorial in New England Homestead for November 14 says: "While perhaps the youngest of our farm commodity organizations in New England, the turkey growers are not lacking in enterprise or ambition. Indced, they can show a thing or two to some of the longer established groups. Connecticut's association has been in action only some two years, but during that brief time it has established a strong marketing program characterized by a close personal contact between members and their retailer outlets. The association has constantly stressed the importance of quality, and the individual producers have responded in a gratifying manner. The result is a higher regard for the Connecticut bird on the part of the retailer, a factor that should tend to simplify the marketing process for the producer as time goes on, provided, of course, that the quality standard is adhered to. Great emphasis has been laid on the yellow tag of the New England label in the marketing program."

Section 3

Department
of Agricul-
ture

An editorial in Scientific American for December says: "Some amazing facts were brought to light in a recent address by Dr. W. W. Skinner of the Department of Agriculture. Of the 'by-products' of the farm, commonly called 'farm wastes,' the United States produces annually he said, cornstalks, 100,000,000 tons; cereal straws, 115,000,000 tons; corn cobs, 20,000,000 tons; cotton stalks, 18,000,000 tons; and so on to a total of 250,000,000 tons. As Doctor Skinner said, these by-products are composed, approximately, of: cellulose, 40 per cent; lignin, 30 per cent; and carbohydrates, 30 per cent. Of these three, cellulose has the widest use, being the material from which rayon and paper are made. So far, however, little success has been attained in making paper pulp from these farm by-products because of several factors. One of these is the high cost of the material which must take into account the fact that if it is not allowed to rot in the fields, the organic matter it would thus supply can only be replaced by expensive fertilizers; others are the expense of collection, transportation, and storage of the bulky materials. As far as the chemists are concerned there is no difficulty in this matter. But where they leave off, economists and engineers must step in and make comparative investigations of woodpulp and farm by-product pulp. Furthermore, Doctor Skinner believes that actual mill-scale production for several years will be necessary before the question can be answered. Farmers need not hold too sanguine hopes, therefore, that this additional source of income will be theirs for years to come."

Section 4 MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

Nov. 16.—Livestock prices: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers, steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$7.75 to \$12.55; cows, good and choice \$3.75 to \$5.25; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$6 to \$10.25; vealers, good and choice \$5 to \$7; feeder and stocker cattle, steers, good and choice \$5.25 to \$7.25; heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$4.40 to \$4.60; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$4.50 to \$4.75; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$4 to \$4.50 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$5.25 to \$6.40; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$4 to \$5.

Grain prices: No. 1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis 73 $\frac{1}{8}$ to 75 $\frac{1}{8}$ ¢; No. 2 red winter St. Louis 60 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 61¢; Kansas City 56 to 58 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No. 2 hard winter Chicago 60 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Kansas City 52 $\frac{3}{4}$ to 54 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No. 3 mixed corn Chicago 41 $\frac{1}{4}$ to 43 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ (new) Minneapolis 46 to 47¢; Kansas City 44 to 45 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No. 3 yellow corn Chicago 45¢; Minneapolis 51 to 52¢; St. Louis 42 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 43¢; Kansas City 45 to 46 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No. 3 white oats Chicago 26 to 27 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢; Minneapolis 27 to 27 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City 29¢.

Maine sacked Green Mountain potatoes ranged 80¢-\$1.10 per 100 pounds in eastern city markets; Eastern sacked Round Whites 85¢-\$1.05 in the East; 70¢ f.o.b. Rochester. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites 75¢-80¢ carlot sales in Chicago; 55¢-58 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ f.o.b. Waupaca. New York and Mid-western yellow onions 85¢-\$1.50 per 50-pound sack in consuming centers; one car \$1.10 f.o.b. Rochester. New York Danish type cabbage closed at \$12-\$18 bulk per ton in terminal markets; \$8.50-\$10 f.o.b. Rochester. Northern Danish Type \$25 in St. Louis; \$18 f.o.b. Racine. Delaware and Maryland Jersey type sweet potatoes brought 40¢-60¢ per bushel hamper in eastern cities. Virginia stock 75¢-\$1.50 per stave barrel in the East. Tennessee Nancy Halls 80¢-90¢ per bushel hamper in Chicago. New York Rhode Island Greening apples, No. 1, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches up, \$1.25-\$1.37 $\frac{1}{2}$; Wealthys 90¢-\$1; McIntosh \$1.50-\$2 and Staymans 75¢-85¢ per bushel hamper in New York City.

Average price Middling spot cotton in the ten designated market declined 4 points to 5.92¢ per lb. On the corresponding day one year ago the price stood at 10.19¢. December future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 4 points to 6.30¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 4 points to 6.31¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 32¢; 91 score, 31 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; 90 score, 31¢.

Wholesale prices of No. 1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 15¢; Single Daisies, 14 $\frac{1}{4}$ to 14 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Young Americas, 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 15¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

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Vol. XLIII, No. 42

Section 1

November 18, 1931.

THE PRESIDENT CALLS FOR UN-EMPLOYMENT AID Machinery to collect \$1,000,000 from Government employees in Washington to relieve unemployment was set in motion yesterday by President Hoover and Thomas E. Campbell, president of the Civil Service Commission and chairman of the special Government employees committee, appointed by the President to collect employment relief funds from Government workers, according to the press today. The report says: "The President's letter was sent to each department, bureau and division, accompanied by a letter from Mr. Campbell outlining the forecast plan of having a collection chairman in each division. Organization for the drive to collect money was not haphazard. Each collection agent is to be equipped with the name and the salary of every employee in his realm. Each is to be solicited for three days pay, one day for each of three months, beginning with January...."

THE GRANDI VISIT R. V. Oulahan, writing in today's New York Times, says: "Outstanding in yesterday's developments in connection with the visit of Dino Grandi, the Italian Foreign Minister, to Washington, was the impression obtained that the groundwork may be laid, without any formal declaration or arrangement to that effect, for turning next year's disarmament conference at Geneva into a general congress at which all questions that affect the world's tranquility and welfare, not excluding economic and financial questions, could be considered by the foremost statesmen of the great nations...."

NATIONAL CREDIT CORPORATION Subscriptions to National Credit Corporation gold notes will exceed the \$500,000,000 originally estimated by those who formulated the plan on President Hoover's suggestion, Mortimer N. Buckner, president of the corporation, announced at New York last night, according to the press today. Mr. Buckner said the corporation would not find it necessary to call for subscriptions because of the light loan demand by banks throughout the country.

BRITISH TARIFF PLANS A London dispatch today says: "The emergency law in which the British Board of Trade hopes to be empowered for the next six months to levy up to 100 per cent import duty on manufactured commodities from abroad will not apply to such goods exported to England by the British Dominions. Walter Runciman, president of the Board of Trade, when outlining the government's proposal in the House of Commons last night, did not mention the Dominions, and as a result there has been much guessing, not only by Britishers, but by members of the American Chamber of Commerce in London and the staff of experts of the United States commercial attache. The doubt was ended, however, in the House of Commons lobby when it was revealed the government's policy provided exemption for other parts of the Empire. This exemption is of special benefit to Canada, which is the only one of the Dominions which exports to the mother country any considerable quantity of the goods to which the emergency anti-dumping tariff will apply...."

Section 2

Citrus
Industry

Agriculture,
U. S. Department of/

T. Ralph Robinson, Senior Physiologist, U. S. Department of Agriculture, writes of "A Fifty Million Dollar Orange From Brazil", and other gifts of the Americas to the citrus fruit industry of the United States, in The Pan American Union for November. He says in part: "With the improvements in transportation and development of cold-storage facilities, citrus fruits now move freely to practically all of the world markets. The transportation of orange juice frozen in suitable containers also promises further to extend distribution and seasons of consumption. Fortunately the principal cropping seasons in the Northern and Southern Hemispheres are well adjusted by nature to avoid destructive competition. With the stimulation of the planting of citrus fruits that seems world wide it will be most wise, however, that each country or section should keep informed of new and contemplated plantings in other regions. Much may be accomplished by choice of varieties for planting, or by marketing methods, to avoid the disastrous results of an oversupply at certain seasons or in certain markets, especially in the large population centers of Europe."

Food Prices

Retail food prices in 51 cities of the United States, as reported to the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor, showed an average decrease of about one-third of 1 per cent on October 15, 1931, when compared with September 15, 1931, and an average decrease of about $17\frac{1}{2}$ per cent since October 15, 1930. The bureau's weighted index numbers, with average prices in 1913 as 100.0, were 144.4 for October 15, 1930; 119.4 for September 15, 1931; and 119.1 for October 15, 1931. During the month from September 15, 1931, to October 15, 1931, 28 articles on which monthly prices were secured decreased as follows: navy beans, 12 per cent; cabbage, 11 per cent; potatoes, 10 per cent; pork chops, 9 per cent; sliced bacon, and leg of lamb, 5 per cent; prunes, 4 per cent; sliced ham, hens, canned red salmon, rice, and canned corn, 3 per cent; sirloin steak, round steak, lard, corn meal, and sugar, 2 per cent; rib roast, chuck roast, fresh milk, vegetable lard substitute, macaroni, pork and bean, canned peas, canned tomatoes, and coffee, 1 per cent; and wheat cereal, and tea, less than five-tenths of 1 per cent. Eight articles increased: Strictly fresh eggs, 12 per cent, butter, 8 per cent; oleomargarine, 3 per cent; oranges, 2 per cent; evaporated milk, and raisins, 1 per cent; and cheese and bananas, less than five-tenths of 1 per cent. The following 6 articles showed no change in the month: Plate beef, bread, flour, rolled oats, corn flakes, and onions. During the month from September 15, 1931, to October 15, 1931, 34 of the 51 cities from which prices were received showed decreases in the average cost of food.

Pacific
International
Livestock
Exposition

An editorial in Western Breeders Journal for November 1 says: "The Thirteenth Annual Pacific International Livestock Exposition is now history. For the benefit of those who were unable to attend we may add that--to use the words that came from the lips of our eastern visitors--it was the world's greatest livestock exposition. It is largely for the benefit of those unfortunates who could not see it for themselves, as well as to provide a substantial record for those who could and did, that we will follow our usual custom of publishing the most complete record of the event to appear anywhere, in our issue of November 15. It is, of course, entirely fitting that we should do this. The

Pacific International Livestock Exposition is far and away the most important livestock event of the year....We of the Western Breeders Journal are proud of the Pacific International, and proud to be able to serve it in any capacity.

"One of the things clearly noticeable at the Pacific International Livestock Exposition was the improvement in the average quality of the animals exhibited by the Pacific Northwest breeders. That improvement was sufficiently marked to justify calling special attention to it. We refer not merely to the improvement in the show itself due to the addition of new exhibitors, but to the better showing made by some of the veteran exhibitors..."

Rat Conference

The Lancet (London) for October 31 says: "The first international conference on the rat was held in Paris in 1928, and its indefatigable secretary-general, Prof. Gabriel Petit, was able to present a report of it when the second conference met on Oct. 7th. This 400-page work...is a remarkably comprehensive survey of all or nearly all that appertains to the rat, and it was in a sense the text-book of the second conference. Among the contributions to the conference was one of considerable interest on the rat and plague in Madagascar by Surgeon-General Letonturier. Prof. Marchoux dealt with the rat and leprosy, and Prof. Brumpt with the parasites of the rat and their role in human pathology. Dr. Dugardin-Beaumetz, of the Pasteur Institute, and Dr. Hauduroy reported on the possibilities of conferring immunity to plague on the rat...."

Science and Adminis- tration

The British Medical Journal for October 31 says: "Some thought-provoking ideas on the subject of science and the State were put forward by the president of the Royal Photographic Society, Olaf Bloch, F.I.C., in his annual address from the chair of that body on October 20. The address was a plea that the scientific man should take a greater place in public affairs. Mr. Bloch pointed out how marked had been the reaction of scientific advance upon human life, except in the sphere of political and social organization, which science had left comparatively untouched. The technical man soon discovered that the government of the community, and the administration of its affairs as at present carried on, came under a completely different category from his own work, so that he was inclined to leave politics and economics severely alone. In this he was wrong, for it should be possible at least to attempt to deal with these matters in the calm, abstract, and logical way in which the scientist pursued his work in the laboratory. The aloofness of the scientist from public life, Mr. Bloch believed, was not likely to continue. Production was passing rapidly under the control of science, and distribution was following; the next stage would be scientific control of administration. The displacement of labor by mechanization, improvements in industrial organization, and all the other factors which made possible the production of wealth with increasing ease, were chiefly due to the efforts of trained individuals, who would, sooner or later, find themselves compelled to take part in government...."

Wool Market

The Commercial Bulletin (Boston) for November 14 says: "There is rather more business being done at the week-end and the undertone is stronger. Prices, while not quotably higher, as a rule are firmer and the market is against the buyer. Firm foreign markets, coupled with the

THE NATIONAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI
FROM : SAC, NEW YORK
SUBJECT: [Illegible]

RE: [Illegible]

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end of the strike at Lawrence and gradual resumption of the mills there, have been decidedly helpful to the wool market. Along with these factors, there has been an acceptance generally of the belief that wool stocks are reasonably small and that wool should rise in sympathy with other commodities. The sentimental and practical value of the celebration of 'National Wool Week' is also accorded place in most calculations, although there is no present snap to the goods markets. Some further buying of fall wools in Texas is reported at prices ranging from 6 to 10 cents, according to the wool."

Section 3

Department of
Agriculture

An editorial in today's Washington Post says: "A conference of signal importance to the United States is being held in Chicago this week under direction of the Department of Agriculture. After listening to experts on all phases of the subject, the conference will attempt to outline essential steps toward a national policy of land utilization.... It is everywhere recognized now that the agricultural plant is too large. Overproduction is the chief cause of the depression from which farmers have been suffering for ten years. Abnormal production was stimulated by the World War.... Secretary Hyde frankly admits that what agriculture needs is more game reserves, more airports, more and larger golf courses, and more city farmers who don't produce much on their large estates. The time has come, he says, for retirement from cultivation of lands which the pioneer subdued, but which stubbornly refuse to yield to his grandchildren a reasonable standard of living. Much of this submarginal land is being taken over by the States in payment of delinquent taxes. Some areas are being abandoned voluntarily.

"The conference at Chicago is trying to develop a policy for utilization of these submarginal lands. Such a problem can not be left to private owners, for they will use land only when it yields immediate profits. If nothing is done, erosion will carry away the soil from these abandoned lands and a valuable asset will be lost.... A program of conservation and utilization for the public welfare is in order. The Federal Government is interested in the preservation of certain areas for scenic and recreational purposes, for game and forest preserves; but much of the responsibility for constructive utilization of submarginal lands will fall upon the States. If the Chicago conference can impress Congress and the State legislatures with the necessity of a constructive land policy, it will perform a great national service."

Section 4

MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

Nov. 17.—Livestock prices: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers, steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$7.75 to \$12.50; cows, good and choice \$3.50 to \$5; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$6 to \$10.25; vealers, good and choice \$5 to \$6.50; feeder and stocker cattle, steers, good and choice \$5.25 to \$7.25; heavy weight (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$4.35 to \$4.55; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$4.35 to \$4.60; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$4 to \$4.35 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$5 to \$6.25; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$4 to \$5.

Grain prices: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis $75\frac{3}{4}$ to $78\frac{3}{4}$; No.2 red winter St. Louis $62\frac{1}{2}$ to 63 ; Kansas City 59 to $59\frac{1}{2}$; No.2 hard winter Kansas City $55\frac{3}{4}$ to $56\frac{3}{4}$; No.3 mixed corn Chicago $43\frac{3}{4}$ to $45\frac{1}{4}$; Minneapolis 50 to $51\frac{1}{2}$; Kansas City 48 to $49\frac{1}{2}$; No.3 yellow corn Chicago $47\frac{1}{2}$; Minneapolis 55 to $56\frac{1}{2}$; St. Louis $44\frac{1}{2}$ to $45\frac{1}{2}$; Kansas City 49 to $50\frac{1}{2}$; No.3 white oats Chicago 27 to $28\frac{1}{2}$; Minneapolis 28 $\frac{1}{8}$ to $28\frac{5}{8}$; Kansas City 29 to 30 $\frac{1}{2}$ (Nom.).

Maine sacked Green Mountain potatoes ranged 80¢-\$1.10 per 100 pounds in city markets; mostly 45¢ f.o.b. Presque Isle. Eastern sacked Round Whites 95¢-\$1 in the East; 70¢ f.o.b. Rochester. Wisconsin sacked stock 75¢-80¢ carlot sales in Chicago; few 55¢-58 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ f.o.b. Waupaca. New York and Midwestern yellow varieties of onions 85¢-\$1.50 per 50-pound sack in consuming centers; \$1.05-\$1.20 f.o.b. Rochester. New York Danish type cabbage brought \$13-\$18 bulk per ton in terminal markets; \$9-\$11 f.o.b. Rochester. Northern Danish type \$25 in St. Louis; \$16-\$17 f.o.b. Racine. Virginia East Shore Jersey type sweet potatoes 90¢-\$1.65 per stave barrel in eastern cities; top of \$2 in Chicago. Tennessee Nancy Halls 80¢-90¢ per bushel hamper in the Middle West. New York Rhode Island Greening apples, No.1, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches up, \$1.25-\$1.37 $\frac{1}{2}$; Wealthys 90¢-\$1; McIntosh \$1.50-\$2; Staymans 75¢-85¢ and Yorks 60¢-65¢ per bushel basket in New York City; cold storage stock--Rhode Island Greenings \$1.30 f.o.b. Rochester.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in the ten designated markets declined 1 point to 5.91¢ per lb. On the corresponding day one year ago the price stood at 10.09¢. December future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 1 point to 6.29¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 2 points to 6.29¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 33¢; 91 score, 32¢; 90 score, 31 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

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Vol. XLIII, No. 43

Section 1

November 19, 1931.

SMOOT URGES TAX RAISE

The administration's tax program was reflected yesterday in a declaration by Chairman Smoot of the Senate finance committee for increased rates on incomes and new excise levies, according to the press today. The report says: "Senator Smoot, usually an administration's spokesman on revenue legislation, proposed raises in all the income brackets to a maximum of 40 per cent on incomes over \$100,000. He advocated also a broad system of sales or excise taxes applying on so-called luxury commodities.... Smoot estimated \$1,200,000,000 must be raised by new taxation next year. This is the highest figure mentioned so far...."

TENNESSEE COTTON PROPOSALS

A Nashville dispatch today says: "The Tennessee Senate called upon Governor Henry H. Horton yesterday to give the extraordinary session of the legislature authority to consider cotton reduction legislation. Under the provisions of the extra session call, the legislature can consider only financial matters. The Senate, however, adopted a resolution yesterday, sponsored by Senators from the cotton-growing section of west Tennessee, which asked that the Governor issue a supplementary call and submit the cotton proposal for consideration. The resolution asked that he include in a supplementary call 'legislation similar to that passed by the southern sister States looking to increasing the sale of raw cotton to a price commensurate with the price of other farm products and within the cost of production.'...."

RAIL RATES ON CANNED GOODS

With a few exceptions, the Interstate Commerce Commission yesterday approved new rates on canned goods to, from and between southern points and they will become effective February 22, according to the press today. The report says: "It found not justified certain rates to North Carolina destinations, all to the South from Green Bay, Oconto and Sturgeon Bay, Wis., and those to Florida points. The commission fixed the rates from Green Bay at not to exceed 5 cents per 100 pounds over rates from Milwaukee to the same destinations, from Oconto: 7 cents and from Sturgeon Bay 8 cents over Milwaukee...."

BRITISH TARIFF LEGISLATION

A London dispatch today says: "Walter Runciman's bill authorizing the British Board of Trade to impose a 100 per cent tariff on manufactured goods from all foreign countries for the next six months was passed on second reading in the House of Commons last night by a vote of 376 to 47. It will go through its final reading in Commons today and be confirmed by the House of Lords and receive royal assent Friday.

"The next move of the National Government toward protection probably will be initiated next week, when the agricultural interests hope to get a declaration from Prime Minister MacDonald and Sir John Gilmour, Minister of Agriculture, as to early legislation for the protection of farmers by means of a wheat quota or other methods...."

Section 2

Business
Forecasts

The Cleveland Trust Monthly says: "In a recent speech, Prof. William T. Foster referred to the meeting of a group of leading financial statisticians--experts in business forecasting--in New York City on November 4. Professor Foster quoted eight of these experts as follows: 'The farmers will not buy much from the proceeds of this harvest; and, with the price declines in process throughout the world, there would seem to be little prospect of any extensive business revival in the near future.' 'The general prospect is for slow and irregular business for ten years.' 'I expect to see a long and slow recovery to a general level of subnormal, slow business.' 'Prices will advance a little from present levels and then fall once more. Recovery will be slow.' 'Conditions abroad will continue to affect our business conditions here. It is a conservative estimate to say that ten years must elapse before we can see genuinely prosperous business in this country.' 'Business will come back to fair, slow operations in three years.' 'The period of readjustment will be long. It will take at least 10 years.' 'We may expect a slow return to a basis on which business can be done at a profit in about three years.' Then Professor Foster continued: 'These pessimistic forecasts were all made on the 4th of November. But it was the 4th of November of the year 1921. At that time business was actually improving although the experts did not know it. Within four months the gain was so marked that everybody could see it. Within sixteen months business was so far above normal that experts became frightened again. Today, the major economic factors are more favorable to a rapid recovery of business than they were in 1921. It is my sober belief that, just as the Depressionists of 1921 were routed, so the Depressionists of 1931 are in for a rude awakening.'"

Cutten on
Grain
Market

"There's real merit to the market. That's why it's going up.' So commented Arthur W. Cutten, investing speculator, to a representative of The Business Week on Nov. 6....He deplores the front-page publicity that has attended his reported re-entry into the speculative grain market in a big way, insisting that sound fundamental forces and not big speculative interests are causing the rise in prices that has been almost continuous in grain markets since Oct. 5. To lead the public to believe that the upward movement is manipulated, as recent press reports might tend to do, is likely to be harmful. It is to the best interest of business that the knowledge that the rise is prompted by sound economics become more general....Cutten relies much for his information upon Nat C. Murray, Clement Curtis statistician, one of the veterans in the business...." (Business Week, Nov. 18.)

Grain
Elevator
in Argentina

"The first cooperative terminal grain elevator in Argentina, constructed by the Argentine Cooperative Association, was opened at Rosario with formal ceremonies on July 19, 1931. Provisional President Uriburu attended in person, arriving from Buenos Aires with his party on a special train, and visitors in large numbers were attracted to the city by the event...." (Pan-Amor. Union Bul., Nov.)

Prices

The index number of wholesale prices as computed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U. S. Department of Labor shows a decrease for October. This index number, which includes 550 commodities or price

series weighted according to the importance of each article and based on the average prices for 1926 as 100.0, declined from 69.1 in September to 68.4 in October, a decrease of a little more than 1 per cent. When compared with October, 1930, with an index number of 82.6 a decrease of 17 per cent has been recorded. Decreases in the prices of corn, cows, hogs, cotton, peanuts, lemons, oranges, white potatoes, tobacco, and wool caused farm products as a group to average $2\frac{3}{4}$ per cent lower in October than in September. On the other hand, the prices of oats, rye, wheat, eggs, hay, and onions were higher than in the month before. Among foods price decreases were reported for lamb, fresh pork, bacon, ham, dressed poultry, cured fish, corn meal, rice, and vegetable oils, resulting in a decrease of about one-half of 1 per cent for the group as a whole. Butter, fresh and cured beef, lard, oleomargarine, rye and wheat flour, and bananas averaged higher than in September. A marked decline in the general average price of hides and skins and leather during October forced the hides and leather group as a whole down slightly more than 3 per cent. Boots and shoes and other leather products showed little or no change from the month before. In the group of textile products cotton goods, woolen and worsted goods, silk and rayon, and other textile products showed further price decreases from September to October. The textile group as a whole declined about $2\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. With gasoline and crude petroleum advancing slightly and with minor decreases reported for anthracite and bituminous coals, practically no change was shown in the fuel and lighting group as a whole. Coke remained at the same level as for the month before. Lumber, cement, paint materials, and other building materials continued their downward movement in October. No change was shown for structural steel with a minor increase reported for brick. The group as a whole showed a decrease of less than 1 per cent. Further price recessions during October for chemicals, mixed fertilizers, and fertilizer materials caused the chemicals and drugs group to decline about 1 per cent. No change was shown for drugs and pharmaceuticals. Both furniture and furnishings in the group of housefurnishing goods continued to decline in the month. Paper and pulp and other miscellaneous articles advanced slightly during the month, whereas cattle feed rose sharply in price and crude rubber showed further declines. No change was reported in the price of automobile tires. Raw materials as a whole averaged lower than in September, as did also semi-manufactured articles and finished products. In the large group of nonagricultural commodities, including all articles other than farm products, and among all commodities other than farm products and foods, the October prices showed a downward movement from those for the month before. Between September and October decreases took place in 104 instances, increases in 190 instances, while in 256 instances no change occurred.

Scientific Research

An editorial in The Florists Exchange for November 14 says: "Some people--though far fewer than formerly--are still inclined to wonder whether scientific research is really worth while from a practical standpoint. A striking answer is supplied by a statement recently attributed to a member of the National Research Council. A standing tree, he pointed out, is worth, say, \$10 a ton; when felled and stripped of its bark its value rises to \$15; through research and scientific treatment it becomes worth \$55 as paper pulp; and as a result of further

laboratory study and additional treatment the pulp can be converted into a silk-like thread with a market value of \$5,500 a ton. Think of that when you read or hear of some scientist working on some problem of plant culture or utilization that sounds, at first, far fetched and impractical; then look for the significance and fruits of his labors."

Wheat Price

Charles Benedict writes on the foundation for the new wheat level in The Magazine of Wall Street for November 14. He says: "On October fifth wheat sold at the lowest price in the history of this country. Less than a month later it had gained 25 cents a bushel, an increase of more than 50 per cent. As this is written 70-cent wheat prevails and the American farmer with 390 million bushels or 44 per cent of this year's crop still in his possession has been at least potentially enriched by many millions of dollars. This gain in value is further increased and distributed by the rise in price of other staples, such as corn, oats and rye, in the wake of wheat. For the moment the country is treated to a brief vision of the prospect of a rising price trend with all that it signifies. For although wheat may still be somewhat below the average cost of production at even current levels the potentialities of higher purchasing power and its accompanying industrial stimulation, the possibility of liquidation of indebtedness, thawing of frozen assets and release from the weight of accumulated farm surpluses, can not be denied. But to achieve any of these much desired effects the firm trend of wheat must be sustained--and sustained not for a week but for many months. Can it be? That depends on how genuine is the base from which it rose. What inspired the gain in price from the 45-cent level? Fundamentally, no doubt, an oversold market the world over,--a market that had given too much attention to bushels harvested and too little to quality. World wide fear had steadily depressed values until at last technical recovery was inevitable. Then came the realization that a good portion of Europe would be forced to buy wheat. Russia's operations, real and fanciful, did the rest and the rise was under way, helped by speculators everywhere. It is perhaps too much to say that, once the uptrend was started, Russia engineered the rapid acceleration in the price of wheat, but there are valid reasons why, in her own interests, she may have contributed heavily to it....Another long range factor contributing to a strong market for wheat is in reduced acreage. Winter wheat seeding in Russia, largely completed in October in place of showing the increase called under the plan, reveals an actual shrinkage of 1.5 per cent. This is ascribed largely to the failure of agricultural machinery of native manufacture. Much of it is defective and in operators' hands is kept in such poor repair as to be exceedingly inefficient and short-lived. A more pronounced curtailment of acreage is shown in our own country....From these indications it is obvious that wheat prices will be free from the weight of excessive production in the near future. On the other hand, while much of the rise may have been seen, prices should be buoyed by the necessity of fulfillment of European requirements. Such a combination is a fair basis for a sounder price level which should offer resistance even to Russian onslaughts..."

Section 3 MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

Nov. 18.--Grain prices: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis $73\frac{3}{4}$ to $76\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; No.2 red winter St. Louis $61\frac{1}{4}$ to $62\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City $57\frac{1}{2}$ to $60\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.2 hard winter Chicago $61\frac{1}{2}$ to $61\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Kansas City 56¢; No.3 mixed corn Chicago $43\frac{1}{2}$ to $45\frac{1}{4}$ ¢(new); Minneapolis $48\frac{1}{2}$ to $49\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City 47 to $48\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.3 yellow corn Chicago 44 to $46\frac{1}{4}$ ¢(new); Minneapolis $53\frac{1}{2}$ to $54\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; St. Louis $44\frac{1}{2}$ to 45¢; Kansas City 48 to $49\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.3 white oats Chicago $26\frac{1}{2}$ to $27\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Minneapolis $27\frac{3}{4}$ to $28\frac{1}{4}$ ¢; St. Louis $27\frac{3}{4}$ to 28¢; Kansas City $30\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

Livestock : Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers; steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$8 to \$12.75; cows, good and choice \$3.75 to \$5.25; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$6.25 to \$10.25; vealers, good and choice \$5 to \$6.50; feeder and stocker cattle, steers, good and choice \$5.25 to \$7.25; heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$4.40 to \$4.55; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$4.40 to \$4.60; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$4 to \$4.35 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$5 to \$6.25; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$4 to \$5.

Maine sacked Green Mountain potatoes jobbed mostly at 80¢-\$1.25 per 100 pounds in eastern markets; mostly 45¢ f.o.b. shipping points. Eastern sacked Round Whites 85¢-\$1.15 in terminal markets; 68¢-69¢ f.o.b. western New York. Wisconsin Round Whites ranged 75¢-80¢ in Chicago carlot market; few sales at 55¢-58 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ f.o.b. Waupaca. New York and midwestern yellow onions ranged \$1.25-\$1.50 per 50 pound sack in New York City; 95¢-\$1.35 f.o.b. western New York points, with southwestern Michigan sales at \$1.05. New York Danish-type cabbage ranged \$9-\$10 bulk per ton at shipping points; mostly \$12-\$18 in eastern consuming centers. Northern Danish-type \$16-\$17 f.o.b. Racine, Wisconsin; \$25 per ton in St. Louis. Eastern Shore of Virginia Jersey-type sweet potatoes mostly 90¢-\$1.75 per barrel in terminal markets, top of \$2 in Chicago. Tennessee Nancy Halls 75¢-95¢ per bushel hamper in midwestern cities. New York Rhode Island Greening apples, No.1, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches up, ranged \$1.25-\$1.37 $\frac{1}{2}$ per bushel basket in New York City, with McIntosh at \$1.75-\$2 and Baldwins as low as 65¢-70¢. Eastern York Imperials sold at 60¢-75¢ per bushel in New York City. Best Baldwins returned 85¢ per bushel tub f.o.b. western New York points.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 33¢; 91 score, 32¢; 90 score, 31 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 15¢; Single Daisies, 14 $\frac{1}{4}$ to 14 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Young Americas, 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 15¢.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets declined 9 points to 5.82¢ per pound. On the same day last year the price was 10.15¢. December future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 8 points to 6.21¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 11 points to 6.18¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

Vol. XLIII, No. 44

Section 1

November 20, 1931.

THE LAND CONFERENCE

A Chicago dispatch today says: "A new line of attack on agriculture's great bugaboo, overproduction, was made at Chicago yesterday by agencies of the Federal Government, the heads of farm organizations and State and county officials. The occasion was a three-day national conference on land utilization called by Secretary Hyde and the Association of Land Grant Colleges and Universities. The proposed plan calls for the limiting of farm production to tillable lands and checking expansion into arid or timbered areas....Secretary Hyde sounded the keynote of the movement in calling attention to the fact that for 150 years the United States has been expanding its agricultural plant without a sound national policy of utilization. Even since the war, he said, Congress has continued to press expansion of production, resulting in the adding of 55,000,000 acres in the last twenty years...."

THE GRANDI CONFERENCES

The press today says: "Immediately after saying goodbye to President Hoover last evening preparatory to leaving Washington for New York early in the morning, Signor Dino Grandi, Foreign Minister of Italy, joined with Secretary Stimson in a statement which confirmed previous information that since he arrived Monday no attempt had been made to reach agreements or understandings between the Italian and American Governments. The joint statement disclosed that the conversation...at the White House, in which President Hoover, Signor Grandi and Secretary Stimson participated, had been for the purpose of an informal exchange of views on international questions. That exchange 'served to clarify many points of mutual interest' and 'establish a sympathetic understanding of our problems.' The statement disclosed that in the White House conversation the three participants discussed the financial crisis, intergovernmental debts, disarmament and stabilization of international exchanges. An expression of hope for concrete accomplishment by next year's world disarmament conference was made...."

MUSCLE SHOALS REPORT

The press today says: "Recommendations for private operation of the properties at Muscle Shoals for producing fertilizer for the benefit of agriculture and, secondarily, for electric power development of the Tennessee River Valley are made in the report of the Commission on Muscle Shoals, which was made public by President Hoover yesterday. The commission unanimously recommended the lease of the Muscle Shoals power plants to private interests, preferably to an organization of farmers, for fifty years...."

JAPANESE COTTON BUYING

A Houston, Tex., dispatch today says: "Japanese cotton firms have been conducting a spectacular buying movement for the last three weeks, paying premiums as high as \$1.25 a bale, to obtain eighty to ninety bales of every 100 bales sold in Texas and Oklahoma spot markets. Leading Houston cotton men estimate the Japanese purchases thus far this season at 1,500,000 to 2,000,000 bales in Texas and Oklahoma alone, and at 3,000,000 to 4,000,000 in the entire South...."

Section 2

Banking
Reform

An editorial in The Business Week for November 18 says: "The three essential objectives which should be kept in mind in making any amendments of the Federal Reserve Act are: protection of depositors; provision of more adequate and elastic credit facilities for industry and trade in all parts of the country; and promotion of a more democratic and decentralized system of credit control....That they are of the utmost importance to the stable progress of American business has been demonstrated by the experiences of this depression. It is evident to every business man now that the smooth, continuous consumption of commodities upon which industrial stability and profits depend can be wrecked by a sudden sharpening of the sense of insecurity among consumers. When this confidence is shaken by widespread bank suspensions, not only is business paralyzed, but the whole credit structure upon which modern economic society rests is threatened....Business itself is directly concerned with the stability and smooth functioning of our banking system. Insecurity arises at bottom from the inadequacy, inelasticity, uncertainty and uneven distribution of the credit facilities required for continuous production and distribution of goods...."

Bolivia's
Agricultural
Congress

"On July 17, 1931, the First Agricultural and Stock-raising Congress was opened in the University of La Paz before a large audience which included the Ministers of the Treasury and Public Instruction, the prefect of the department, the president of the municipal council, representatives from all the Departments of the Republic, and numerous other persons prominent in the official and social life of the capital... Among its most important objectives, Senor Soliz stated, were the organization of a national agricultural society formed by all the farmers and stock-raisers of the country, the foundation of an agricultural bank, and the organization of scientific agricultural and stock-raising service to issue information on various crops and answer questions regarding farming machinery, seeds, fertilizers, irrigation, and means for combating plagues and diseases destructive to agriculture and stock...." (La Republica, La Paz, July 23.)

Radio In-
formation

An editorial entitled "The School of the Air," in Successful Farming for December says: "Amusement, nine times out of ten, would probably answer the question, 'Why a radio set for the average home?' For farm homes such an average answer would hardly do. Farm families crave good music and clean entertainment, but in addition there is an interest in the serious subjects which exceeds that shown by town or city families. Upon this difference state agricultural colleges should ponder when their broadcasting facilities are under consideration. The radio offers a remarkably effective extension outlet whether it be through a station controlled by the college, or through one commercially operated. To us it seems extremely important that college broadcasting equipment be kept up to date and that satisfactory air channels be reserved for this class of program. The commercial press carries an enormous quantity of material the colleges wish brought before the public. To limit college utterances to what the commercial press might choose to print could conceivably embarrass educators and research workers. To our knowledge the management of leading commercial broadcasting

stations is as eager as the press to give college workers complete freedom of expression by way of their facilities. However, the principle of keeping air channels open to the public educational institutions is just as important as that of allowing them to publish their own printed matter."

Rural Educa-
tion and
Taxes

An editorial in The Country Gentleman for December says: "The National Education Association has been a conspicuous leader in the improvement and standardization of rural schools. It has done a splendid piece of work. But unless the N. E. A. is willing to alter its viewpoint, at least temporarily, there is grave danger that it may lose much of the ground already gained. It is time that educators generally join whole-heartedly in the attempt to ease the burden of taxation which is confiscating farm lands and impoverishing agricultural regions. In a research bulletin just issued by the National Education Association, there is an exhaustive discussion of the organization and administration of rural schools. Several practicable suggestions are made--such, for example, as the merging of districts in sparsely populated areas and the county-unit plan of administration. Substantial savings, the bulletin points out, could be made in this way. But after mapping out these measures of economy, the pamphlet goes on to say: 'Money saved can be spent for transportation of pupils, for better salaries, and for general enlargement and improvement of the work of the school.' The suggestion is fortified by a resume of the advantages of the larger-type school with its broader curriculum and full complement of teachers. But nowhere does one find it hinted that the savings thus effected might be put to excellent use, temporarily at least, in reducing general property taxes. The N. E. A. is not unmindful of the farmer's plight. Indeed, the bulletin admits frankly that farm lands bear a staggering load of taxes under our present system of levies. But the remedy, as the educators see it, is tax reform--a shift to other forms of taxation.

"Academically that viewpoint doubtless is sound enough. Tax reform may be able to distribute tax burdens more equably. But it is coming slowly. What we need more than anything else is less public expenditure. As Louis H. Cook pointed out last month in The Country Gentleman, '...the tax winds are blowing in the right direction, but they are not blowing very hard as yet.' Fundamental changes in our system of taxation may prove a remedy--but a long-time remedy. Generally speaking, in times like these the only effective tax reform is less public spending. If savings can be made in rural education without the impairment of fundamental standards--and it appears that this is possible in many localities--it seems only fair that these economies should be translated, for the present, into lower ad valorem levies....The educators can help bring taxes down--if they will. But programs of expansion will have to wait. Enlarged curriculums, increased staffs of teachers, better salaries--all these must wait. And if our leaders in the educational field fail to see that a crisis is at hand, then there is a grim possibility that much of the structure they have already built will be carried away on the flood tide of resentment that is almost sure to ensue in many rural localities...."

Science and
Administra-
tion

An editorial in Nature (London) for October 31 says: "Notwithstanding the position of science in the life of the nation, little or nothing has been done by the administration of Great Britain to give 'a square deal' to the scientific and technical officers employed in the service of the State....Two things are needed to hasten these reforms. In the first place, an informed public opinion must be created which will insist that all important questions of the day involving scientific considerations are discussed with the full assistance of experts, who, moreover, must have free access to the supreme authority represented by the Minister. In this way the specialist officers will take their proper share in the formation of policy. In the second place, every blunder in administration which might have been avoided by the proper utilization of scientific knowledge should receive the widest publicity...."

Sugar Pro-
duction
in Florida

An editorial in The Miami Herald for November 9 says: "It appears likely that the Southern Sugar Company, despite years of financial struggles, will pull through safely this year and take its place as the first real sugar cane development to survive in the Florida Everglades. There is no question about the value of that part of the Everglades around Clewiston for growing cane. Over a period of years the Southern Sugar Company has segregated thousands of acres of the most desirable land for this purpose. The proposed Federal flood control dike will protect and benefit these holdings as much or more than any other part of the Everglades. But as was the case in many developments from 1925 to 1927 and later, money was spent perhaps too freely to be justified by the potential returns....Happily for south Florida, the company was able to finance last year's operations under a receivership and now is preparing to sell its complete plant to a reorganization group. The sale will be held at LaBelle, December 7, when an offer will be made by the United States Sugar Company. If the offer is acceptable to the court having jurisdiction over the receivership, the business of growing cane and converting it into fine sugar will go on as before, except that its production will be based upon a valuation promising adequate returns upon investment. Many will lose, many from all parts of the United States who were led to believe that the Everglades were the 'Sugarbowl of the Nation.' As indeed it is, but it was an expensive sugar bowl. But those who now are preparing to assume control should prosper. And with them, south Florida will flourish. It would have been a major tragedy to this section had the Southern Sugar Company plant and vast acres been abandoned to the weeds and sawgrass, as other similar ventures have been."

Section 3 MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

Nov. 19.—Grain prices: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis $75\frac{1}{2}$ to $78\frac{1}{4}$; No.2 red winter St. Louis $62\frac{1}{2}$ to $63\frac{3}{4}$; Kansas City 60 to $61\frac{1}{4}$; No. 2 hard winter Kansas City 58¢; No.3 mixed corn Chicago 46 to $46\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ (new); Minneapolis $48\frac{1}{2}$ to $49\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Kansas City 47 to 49¢; No.3 yellow corn Chicago 48¢; Minneapolis $51\frac{1}{2}$ to $52\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; St. Louis 45 to 46¢; Kansas City $47\frac{1}{2}$ to $49\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.3 white oats Chicago $27\frac{1}{4}$ to $27\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Minneapolis $28\frac{1}{2}$ to 29¢; St. Louis $28\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City $29\frac{1}{2}$ to $30\frac{3}{4}$ ¢ (Nom.).

Livestock: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers; steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$8.25 to \$12.75; cows, good and choice \$4 to \$5.25; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$6.50 to \$10.25; vealers, good and choice \$5.25 to \$7; feeder and stocker cattle, steers, good and choice \$5.50 to \$7.25; heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$4.35 to \$4.55; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$4.40 to \$4.55; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$4 to \$4.40 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$5.25 to \$6.50; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$4 to \$5.

Maine sacked Green Mountain potatoes ranged 80¢-\$1.10 per 100 pounds in city markets; mostly 45¢ f.o.b. Presque Isle. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites 75¢-85¢ carlot sales in Chicago; 55¢-60¢ f.o.b. Waupaca. New York and Midwestern Yellow varieties of onions 85¢-\$1.50 per 50-pound sack in consuming centers; \$1.15-\$1.20 f.o.b. Rochester and 95¢ f.o.b. West Michigan points. New York Danish type cabbage \$12-\$18 bulk per ton in terminal markets; \$8.50-\$12 f.o.b. Rochester. Northern Danish type \$20-\$22 for fair quality in St. Louis; \$16-\$17 f.o.b. Racine. Virginia East Shore Jersey type sweet potatoes \$1-\$1.65 per stave barrel in the East; top of \$2 in Chicago. Tennessee Nancy Halls 85¢-\$1 per bushel hamper in Chicago. New York McIntosh apples, No.1, $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches up, \$1.75-\$2; Rhode Island Greenings \$1.25; Wealthys 80¢-85¢ and Baldwins 75¢ per bushel basket in New York City; Bladwins 85¢ f.o.b. Rochester.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 32¢; 91 score, 31¢; 90 score, $30\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, $13\frac{1}{2}$ to 15¢; Single Daisies, $14\frac{1}{4}$ to $14\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Young Americas, $14\frac{1}{2}$ to 15¢.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in the ten designated markets remained unchanged at 5.82¢ per lb. On the same day one year ago the price stood at 10.07¢. December future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 4 points to 6.17¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 3 points to 6.15¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XLIII, No. 45

Section 1

November 21, 1931.

THE LAND CONFERENCE

A Chicago dispatch today says: "The division in this country of all farm lands according to usefulness into four groups was suggested by Dr. Henry G. Knight, Chief of the Bureau of Chemistry and Soils of the Department of Agriculture, in his address yesterday to the Conference on Land Utilization. The first three divisions would not be used for agricultural production, and the fourth would be made up of the areas upon which would be expended 'our best efforts in the formulation of a land utilization program,' he said. Nonarable, unprofitable and eroded areas would fall into the first three classifications, he explained....

"How agricultural information is distributed and used among farmers throughout the country was described by Dr. C. W. Warburton, Director of Extension Work, Department of Agriculture, to the representatives of farmers and interested industries who are attending the conference. 'Between 2,400 and 2,500 of the agricultural counties have extension agents, who bring economic material to the attention of the farmer in many ways,' he said....

"'Adjusting the Tax Burden to the Taxpaying Ability of the Tax Bearer' was the subject of an address by Richard T. Ely, director of the Institute for Research in Land Economics and Public Utilities....Eric Englund, in charge of the Division of Agricultural Finance and Assistant Chief of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, Department of Agriculture, made an address on 'Changes in Taxation Requisite for a Sound Program of Land Utilization.'..."

FARM BOARD ON WHEAT SALES

The Federal Farm Board yesterday made public an explanation by the Grain Stabilization Corporation of its wheat sales to flour millers last winter, according to the press today. The report says:

"A thousand-word statement, directed at Governor Murray of Oklahoma, reiterated Chairman Stone's justification of the transactions by which flour made from stabilization wheat was sold abroad and asserted no excessive profits were desired by the millers...."

GRANGE ELECTION

A Madison, Wis., dispatch today states that the sixty-fifth annual convention of the National Grange closed at Madison yesterday with installation of officers elected for the next biennium. Next

year the Grange will meet in North Carolina, the city to be selected by the executive committee. Louis J. Taber, Columbus, Ohio, will again head the Grange, having been reelected national master for the fourth consecutive time. The report says: "At its final session the Grange adopted a resolution urging the Government to restore as nearly as possible the wholesale price average of 1923-28 and stabilization of the price level at that point. The Grange asked for protection of the farmer in a resolution which stated that 'so long as an American protective tariff is maintained we favor rates to insure American markets to the American farmer on products which can be produced advantageously in any part of the country.'"

Section 2

County Unification An editorial in Commercial West for November 14 says: "There is a movement on foot in Minnesota to unite two or more contiguous counties under one name and one county administration of its business and political affairs. The purpose is to cut down the costs of operation and reduce taxes. The idea is commendable. There are any number of areas in Minnesota where adjoining counties could well be united and, with the determination of taxpayers now to hold their levies down, the saving would be of large extent if the movement grows to proportions. The plan had its origin and has come to a head in the counties of Steam and Benton, just north of the Twin Cities. These and possibly Sherburne adjoining are studying the idea and have taken steps which may lead to unification under jurisdiction of the 1933 legislature. Unwieldy counties, of course, should not be created, but, where the counties are small, the plan should work out satisfactorily to all concerned."

Egg Laying Contest An editorial in The Utah Farmer for November 10 says: "During the last weeks of October the Seventh Annual Egg Laying Contest came to a close at the Experiment Station at Logan. These contests have attracted considerable attention, they have been well supported and have been a big factor in building up the breeding flocks of Utah. During the period of time that these contests have been conducted breeding flocks and hatcheries have shown marked development until now they are recognized as being on a par with standard hatcheries anywhere...."

Labor Turnover The Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor presents October turnover rates for manufacturing as a whole and for 10 separate manufacturing industries. The all-accession rate for October was 2.75. The total separation rate was 6.22. Of the 10 industries for which separate figures are shown, sawmills had the highest accession rate, 7.43. The lowest accession rate, 1.01 was registered by the boot and shoe industry. Cotton manufacturing had the highest quit rate, 1.42. The lowest quit rate, .49, was shown in the brick industry. The highest discharge rate, .51, occurred in the sawmill industry, and the lowest discharge rate, .06, in the iron and steel industry. Automobiles had the highest layoff rate, 19.47. The lowest layoff rate, 1.41, was shown by the iron and steel industry.

Price Psychology An editorial in The Farmer and Farm, Stock & Home for November 14 says: "While the economists would have us believe that the world price level follows certain set rules such as supply and demand, monetary values and the like, we have long held to the opinion that the state of public opinion is equally important in determining exchange value, particularly in the case of farm products marketed in an unorganized way. Farm products usually bring what people think they ought to bring, regardless of production. By way of illustration, it is only within the past two or three weeks that anyone has properly considered the value of wheat. While the world supply of wheat has not been measurably changed during this period, consider the recent strengthening of prices caused chiefly by rumor and public opinion. What else but psychology could cause this change from the lowest price in centuries? Certainly the mere rumors of Russia's exporting strength could not have caused the change in public opinion. Whatever the facts may prove to be, here's hoping the new

psychology of rising prices will continue to rule. Citing one more illustration, why should wheat be the barometer of farm prices which it seems to be? The recent firming of wheat prices has brought more optimism to business in general than any happening in rural circles in many months. Yet wheat is today a source of minor farm income in Minnesota and Wisconsin and of lessening importance in the Dakotas each year. If rising wheat prices will restore farm prices in general, everyone will gladly wish for the wheat grower all possible prosperity. There is certainly no other reasonable explanation aside from public opinion of world surplus to account for the disastrous prices for all farm commodities that have prevailed for the past year. It is high time to be thinking in terms of higher prices instead of in terms of overproduction."

Taxation and
County
Agent

An editorial in The Farmer and Farm, Stock & Home for November 14 says: "No sensible person can possibly disagree with the western farmer's complaint that agriculture is being submerged because of unjust and impossible fixed charges resulting from an excessive tax burden. While there is common agreement on the proposition that farm taxes must be reduced in all possible ways, there is some disagreement as to the method of procedure in reducing such taxes....We refer particularly to the agitation started in numerous counties of the Western States looking toward the elimination of various county activities included under educational and extension work....This type of educational service, supported by Federal, State, county and farm bureau funds in a great cooperative effort to promote economical production, efficient marketing, community progress and rural welfare in all possible ways, has always seemed to us to be very much worth while....But to throw out 4-H club work, agricultural improvement programs, and the home projects of farm women in order to reduce taxes is absurd because the cost to farm taxpayers is so small that it could not possibly afford any tax relief commensurate with the value of the work to farm people and to the business interests of our rural communities...."

eterinary
ecognition
n Peru

"Recognizing the importance of the part played by the veterinary in the stock-raising industry, an order was issued by the Council of Government on July 8, 1931, providing that an official register for veterinaries be established in the Bureau of Agriculture and Stock Raising of the Department of Promotion....At present no charge is being made for the registration, but the Government is authorized to establish such a fee whenever it is thought advisable." (La Cronica, Lima, July 13.)

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

Vol. XLIII, No. 46

Section 1

November 23, 1931.

THE LAND CONFERENCE

A Chicago dispatch today says: "Steps to halt the steady expansion in the Nation's use of land, a movement which has progressed since Colonial days and is now bearing down heavily on agriculture's well-being, were taken at Chicago on Saturday at the final session of the three-day land utilization conference.

"The conference was called by the land grant colleges and universities and by Secretary of Agriculture Hyde, who presided at the summation meeting. In attendance were 357 representatives of Federal, State and private agencies concerned with the forming of a national land use policy.

"We have made a distinct forward step, marked by singular freedom from controversy," was Secretary Hyde's comment as the conference closed. "Certain of the recommendations adopted can be put into immediate use, while others will call for further study and cooperation by the bodies most directly concerned. We have set up the machinery for accomplishing these objectives."

"Two national committees were created by the conferees. One is to be called the National Land Use Planning Committee to be composed of five experts in the Federal Department of Agriculture, three in the Department of Interior, one each from the Farm Board, Farm Loan Board, Federal Reclamation Service, Geological Survey and Federal Land Office and five from the land grant colleges. It will be a research and fact-finding body. The other, called the National Advisory and Legislative Committee on Land Use, will include representatives of the United States Chamber of Commerce, American Bankers Association, American Farm Bureau Federation, National Grange, Farmers' Union, National Association of State Agriculture Department Heads and national cooperative marketing or general agricultural organizations. It will advise the fact-finding committee and assist in directing legislative actions to carry out their findings.

"The first steps projected are to block new homesteading and reclamation projects which would bring further lands into farm production....Using soil survey maps already completed in many States, the conference indicated a basis on which to proceed immediately to prepare a complete and detailed classification of all lands in the United States as a means of determining which regions could most readily and logically be taken out of cultivation. These lands would be reforested or placed to other uses as grazing, after satisfactory credit and taxation difficulties have been overcome."

COTTON PLANS

The program of the Federal Farm Board and southern bankers to join forces in holding about 7,000,000 bales of cotton off the market until July 31 in an effort to prevent further shrinkage of prices during the current season will be consummated, the Federal Farm Board stated yesterday, according to the press today. The report says: "The board said that it had received a letter from the chairman of the bankers committee saying that pledges to finance the withholding of 3,100,000 bales had been obtained, and added that the board was prepared to keep its bargain to withhold another 3,300,000 bales. It predicted that the bankers would succeed in arranging to finance the balance of a total of 3,500,000 bales which had been agreed upon as their part of the programs...."

Section 2

Animal
Diseases
in Bri-
tain

An editorial in *The Scottish Farmer* for November 7 says: "It is partly owing to her insular position and partly due to the possession of an active and efficient State veterinary service and a large army of skilled private veterinary practitioners that Britain enjoys comparative freedom from the more serious contagious animal diseases....The historical survey given in the Ministry of Agriculture's Report for 1930 shows that we have had no sheep pox since 1850, no rinderpest since 1877, no contagious pleuro-pneumonia since 1898, no epizootic lymphangitis since 1906, no rabies since 1922, and no glanders since 1928. The fact that those diseases have been stamped out--three of them during the present century and two since the war--gives rise to the hope that the remaining six will be stamped out also at no far distant date. The six notifiable contagious diseases still existing in Britain are anthrax, foot-and-mouth disease, swine fever, sheep scab, parasitic mange of horses, and certain forms of bovine tuberculosis. Foot-and-mouth disease declined steadily from 1926 onwards, and last year there were only eight outbreaks--the lowest number in any year since 1918. Unfortunately there has been a serious recurrence during the present year. During 1930 there were 392 outbreaks of anthrax compared with 439 in the previous years and 703 in 1926. The annual number of anthrax cases has varied considerably since the war, but there has been a distinct improvement since 1926. No fewer than 76 of last year's outbreaks were probably due to previous cases on the same farms, and of the remaining 316 outbreaks the probable source of infection is stated in 211 cases to be the use of imported feeding stuffs, and in 42 cases the use of both imported feeding stuffs and manures. It may or may not be significant that the lowest numbers of outbreaks reported since 1892 were in 1918 and 1919 when imports were low. Parasitic mange of horses will probably be eradicated within the next ten years, just as glanders has been within the last ten...."

Building
Permits

The Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor received building permit reports from 343 identical cities having a population of 25,000 or over, for the months of September, 1931, and October, 1931. These reports indicated that there was a decrease of 6.3 per cent in the number and an increase of 2.4 per cent in the estimated cost of new residential buildings comparing October with September. In contrast, new nonresidential buildings increased 6.3 per cent in number but decreased 16.7 per cent in estimated cost. Additions, alterations and repairs increased .3 of 1 per cent in number but decreased 2.8 per cent in estimated cost. Total building operations increased 1.1 per cent in number but decreased 8.1 per cent in cost. Dwelling units were provided during October, 1931, for 7,981 families. This is an increase of 12.0 per cent as compared with September, 1931. Various agencies of the United States Government awarded 120 building contracts during October which totaled \$10,349,498. Comparing permits issued in 292 identical cities during October, 1931, and October, 1930, there was a decrease of 16.4 per cent in the number and a decrease of 34.8 per cent in the estimated cost of total building operations. New residential buildings decreased 30.4 per cent in number and 42.2 per cent in estimated cost comparing these two periods. New nonresidential buildings decreased 22.8 per cent in number and 30.5 per cent in estimated cost. Additions, alterations and repairs decreased 8.7 per cent in number and

26.5 per cent in estimated cost. The number of family dwelling units provided decreased 36.0 per cent.

Business

The Business Week for November 18 says: "Amid the nervous swings of speculative sentiment in commodity and security markets evidences of actual increase in industrial and trade activity so far in November are still slight, scattered and of uncertain significance....Despite undeniable improvement in underlying elements and more optimistic business attitudes it is unreasonable to expect much immediate evidence of upturn at this season of the year....Resistance to seasonal decline of steel production, fairly well sustained strength in residential building and carloadings, an October upturn in department store sales, scattered increases in employment, and some recession in currency circulation after allowance for seasonal and price factors, are all encouraging indications, offset by persistent weakness in electric power output and check payments and continued bank credit liquidation....Our index for the first week of November is stationary at the low level for the year....Commodity prices have relaxed the swift pace of their recent rise, and security markets are taking their tempo from them, lacking other stimulation in industrial or business news....Intensifying difficulties in the German financial situation, as yet unrelieved by French moves, as well as the economic uncertainties involved in the Manchurian picture of 'raging peace,' are some of the more immediate obstacles still to be overcome before the bear market can be definitely declared dead and the badly scared sacred bull safely issue from his long seclusion for the next festival."

International

An editorial in The Illinois Agricultural Association Record for November says: "More than 12,000 choice farm animals will fill the 22 acres of exposition halls and show barns at the coming International Livestock Exposition November 28 to December 5 in Chicago, Manager B.H. Heide announces. Purebred herds have been entered from Canada to the Gulf, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and samples of wheat are en route to the International Grain and Hay Show from western Australia. The exposition promises to be outstanding in every respect and will be worth the time and money of every producer who has not seen this brilliant spectacle."

Texas Co-operation

Through their cooperative associations, cotton, wool and mohair, grain, dairy, poultry, pecan, and fruit and vegetable producers of Texas are receiving direct benefits under the provisions of the agricultural marketing act, according to the press today. In the past two years the services of six national cooperative sales agencies have been made available as follows: the American Cotton Cooperative Association; the National Wool Marketing Corporation; the National Live Stock Marketing Association; Farmers National Grain Corporation; the National Pecan Marketing Association; and the National Fruit and Vegetable Exchange, Inc. In addition to the financial aid cotton, wool and mohair, livestock, grain, and pecan associations have had through the national agencies for these commodities, Texas cooperatives up to October 8, 1931, had borrowed \$4,362,329.97 from the revolving fund of which they had repaid \$3,420,-181.56.

Wool Market

The Commercial Bulletin (Boston) for November 21 says: "The wool market is firmer and rather more active, with prices a half-cent to a cent in the grease above the recent low point. Improvement is noticeable in both woolen and worsted wools. Foreign markets are barely steady with the larger selection of wools now becoming available, but competition continues good. The manufacturing trend develops slowly, but the wool trade believes that the raw material is today in the controlling position. Sales of fall Texas are about over in the country, recent sales of the better wools having been made around 10 cents."

Section 3Department of
Agriculture

An editorial in The New York Times for November 20 says: "Chief among our agricultural problems, Secretary Hyde told the members of a land utilization conference at Chicago yesterday, is the need of a long-time national land policy. But it must not be a long-time policy based on short-time considerations. Mr. Hyde developed the familiar argument that the epoch of expanding acreage with us is closed. It is a question now of reorganization and readjustment in agriculture. This may involve an actual decrease in acreage, the abandonment of subnormal land whose cultivation is unprofitable for the farmer and for the general community. The need of an anti-expansionist policy in land has been brought about by social changes and by the application of machinery to agriculture. Yet there occurred to the speaker a thought that is not always present in prophecies dealing with the fate of the American farmer; and this is that present trends, while certainly calling for attention, do not after all guarantee an inevitable result. Sir William Crookes predicted in 1900 that by 1931 the world would suffer from wheat famine. A few years ago the prophets were exhausting our oil resources within a few short disastrous years. But just as forecasts of the exhaustion of wheat and petroleum are today ludicrously out of line with the facts, so today's forecast about a world swamped with the fruits of mechanized agriculture may in the not distant future have to be revised. The general thesis is sound, that with increased skill and mechanical aids fewer farmers and fewer farms are needed to feed the nations. Yet who shall say what changes in the food conditions and habits of the world the future may not see? This is why Mr. Hyde warns his audience against 'a hasty position based on present conditions.'...Mr. Hyde's warning against a happy-thought plan for agriculture is very much in place."

Section 4 MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

Nov. 20.--Livestock prices: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers, steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$8.25 to \$12.75; cows, good and choice \$4 to \$5.25; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$6.50 to \$10.25; vealers, good and choice \$5.25 to \$7; feeder and stocker cattle; steers, good and choice \$5.50 to \$7.25; heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$4.35 to \$4.55; light lights (140-160 lbs) good and choice \$4.50 to \$4.65; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$4 to \$4.40 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$5.25 to \$6.50; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$4 to \$5.

Grain prices: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis $74\frac{1}{4}$ to $76\frac{1}{4}$; No.2 red winter St. Louis $60\frac{1}{4}$ to $63\frac{3}{4}$ (Nom.); Kansas City $58\frac{1}{2}$ to $61\frac{1}{4}$ (Nom); No.2 hard winter Kansas City 56 to $57\frac{1}{4}$; No.3 mixed corn Chicago $45\frac{1}{4}$ (new); Minneapolis 45 to $46\frac{1}{4}$; Kansas City $46\frac{1}{2}$ to $48\frac{1}{2}$; No.3 yellow corn Chicago 47 to $47\frac{1}{2}$; Minneapolis 48 to $49\frac{1}{4}$; St. Louis $43\frac{1}{2}$ to $44\frac{1}{2}$; Kansas City 48 to $49\frac{1}{2}$; No.3 white oats Chicago 27; Minneapolis $27\frac{5}{8}$ to $28\frac{5}{8}$; Kansas City $29\frac{1}{2}$ to $30\frac{1}{2}$ (Nom).

Maine sacked Green Mountain potatoes ranged 80¢-\$1.10 per 100 pounds in eastern cities; 40¢-45¢ f.o.b. Presque Isle. Eastern sacked Round Whites 85¢-\$1.05 in city markets; 65¢-70¢ f.o.b. Rochester. Wisconsin sacked stock 75¢-80¢ carlot sales in Chicago; 55¢-60¢ f.o.b. Waupaca. New York and Midwestern yellow onions 85¢-\$1.50 per 50-pound sack in consuming centers; \$1-\$1.30 f.o.b. Rochester and 90¢ f.o.b. west Michigan points. New York Danish type cabbage brought \$12-\$18 bulk per ton in terminal markets; \$9-\$11 f.o.b. Rochester. Northern Danish stock fair \$20-\$22 in St. Louis; \$17-\$18 f.o.b. Racine. Virginia East Shore Jersey Type sweet potatoes \$1.10-\$1.65 per stave barrels in eastern cities. Maryland and Delaware stock 35¢-60¢ per bushel basket in the East. Tennessee Nancy Halls 85¢-\$1 in Chicago. New York Rhode Island Greening apples, No.1, $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches up, \$1.37 $\frac{1}{2}$ -\$1.50; McIntosh \$1.50-\$2 per bushel basket in New York City; Baldwins 85¢ f.o.b. Rochester.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets declined 9 points to 5.73¢ per lb. On the same day last year the price was 10.05¢. December future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 10 points to 6.09¢ and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 12 points to 6.03¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 32¢; 91 score, 31¢; 90 score, $30\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, $13\frac{1}{2}$ to 15¢; Single Daisies, $14\frac{1}{4}$ to $14\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Young Americas, $14\frac{1}{2}$ to 15¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XLIII, No. 47

Section 1

November 24, 1931.

WHITE HOUSE

RELIEF PLEDGES

Theodore G. Joslin, secretary to the President, announced yesterday that President Hoover and every member of the White House executive force had voluntarily agreed to contribute one day's pay in January, February and March to the fund for relieving distress in Washington, according to the press today.

COTTON PARLEY

VOTES ACREAGE CUT

A Jackson, Miss., dispatch today states that the South-wide Uniform Cotton Control Conference yesterday adopted the Texas curtailment plan, calling for 50 per cent reduction in planting in 1932 and 1933, as its recommendation for relief legislation in all the Southern States. The report says: "Ten of the eleven cotton-producing States represented cast their votes for the Texas plan to raise prices in the face of this year's bumper crop. North Carolina's delegation was instructed not to vote...."

COTTON EXPORT

A Mobile, Ala., dispatch today says: "An echo of warring times in the Orient is being reflected in the movement of cotton from Pensacola. Thousands of bales intended for delivery at Shanghai and to several ports of Japan are still in warehouses at the Florida city. There was so much cotton there at the outbreak of the Manchurian conflict that all storage room in railroad warehouses was taken before the product could be safely put away. But thousands of bales continued to arrive for Oriental destinations, and the shippers were put to some trouble and anxiety to take care of it. From the best information at hand, no cotton will move to Japan for some months."

RAISIN LOAN

Agreement has been reached between the Farm Board, Sun Maid Raisin growers and California bankers for the financing of Sun Maid's export business next year, according to the press today.

VITAMIN D

A Berlin dispatch today says: "Pure Vitamin D is a poison as well as a life-saver. This discovery was explained yesterday as one result of the 'isolation' of a crystal which is pure Vitamin D, announced last week by Professor Adolf Windaus....Professor Windaus refused to discuss his discovery, which required four years of research, but he named as spokesman Professor Carl Oppenheimer, a Berlin editor of scientific publications. 'The physiological effects of the vitamin thus isolated,' said Professor Oppenheimer, 'are the same as those of sunshine. Three-billionths of a gram of the crystal is sufficient to relieve rickets, the diet disorder which is caused by Vitamin D deficiency, but one fifty-thousandth part of a gram is poisonous....'"

DENMARK EXTENDS

A Copenhagen dispatch today states that urgent measures to halt the flight of Danish capital abroad and to extend suspension of the gold standard for another three months were passed in both houses of the Riksdag yesterday.

Section 2

Agricultural
Stimulation

An editorial in The Daily Pantagraph (Bloomington, Ill.) for November 20 says: "The idea that stimulation of agriculture with improved markets and earnings will stimulate all business is pretty well supported by a recent United States agricultural census report from Washington. From 1920 to 1930 the value of all farm property, land, buildings, implements and livestock, declined from seventy-seven billion to fifty-seven billion dollars. The ratio of debt to total value increased from 29 per cent in 1920 to 39 per cent in 1930. At the same time farmers were encountering this deflation of value and increase of the debt burden, they proved good spenders. Automobiles on farms increased from two million to four million, motor trucks increased from 139,000 to 900,000 in round figures. Tractors increased from 248,000 to 920,000. Farm homes equipped with water pipes increased from 643,000 to 994,000. In 1920 there were 454,000 homes equipped with either gas or electric lights while in 1930 there were 841,000 with electric lights. With all this increase in use of factory products in the face of declining farm incomes, one wonders what farmers would do were the situation reversed and their purchasing power increased. There are more than six million farms in America, yet only four million reported automobiles only 841,000 reported electric lights, only 994,000 reported running water in the homes. To give agriculture greater buying power would open up a wonderful market for all manner of industrial products."

Business
Conditions

The Business Week for November 25 says: "The easing of banking strain from both internal and external sources is still the outstanding symptom of underlying improvement in the domestic situation. Prospects of speedy attack on the reparations and private debt problems of Germany are promising in the European picture....Surface signs of actual improvement in activity are still confined to the somewhat mysterious out-of-season steadiness in raw steel production, despite slackness in structural and railroad requirements and delay in new-model automotive specifications....All other current indications of industrial and trade activity continue to show more than seasonal weakness, depressing our index to lower levels for the first half of November and making it uncertain whether the month as a whole will supply the first faint sign of stabilization or upturn from the October low point which sentiment expects...Continued liquidation of bank credit, renewed weakness in security and commodity markets and high commercial mortality records are indications of the difficulties and irregularities of adjustment inevitable at the end of a prolonged and drastic deflation...In face of the year-end settlement period, the uncertainties in the foreign situation, and the formidable fiscal and other problems which confront the new Congress, it is to be expected that these difficulties of readjustment will be intensified in the closing weeks of the year and continue until the usual spring up-swing supplies new stimulus to business and speculative sentiment."

Grain As-
sociations

An editorial in The Hoosier Farmer for November 15 says: "Some very important news is announced in this issue relative to the Central States Grain Association, in the offices of the Indiana Farm Bureau, which has sold and transferred to the Farmers' National Grain Corporation Chicago, their owned elevators and their leaseholds on rented elevator

properties, including terminal storage facilities for more than 1,000,000 bushels of grain. The association's pooled wheat was not included in this sale. As a result of the transfer, the Central States Grain Association, which is a stockholder in the Farmers' National Grain Corporation, creates a closer relationship with the national organization. The practical working out of this program promises to reflect back to the grower a substantially larger part of the consumer's dollar spent for grain and grain products. The new connection will eliminate all duplication of service with its unnecessary expense. It is a step forward in the cooperative marketing of grain in Indiana. The Central States Grain Association will continue exactly as before this sale was made and will assist in acquiring elevator facilities in every locality in Indiana where the volume of grain for shipment will support an elevator, providing that the producers in each locality considered will agree to deliver their grain to the association. Directors and officers of the association are highly pleased over the prospects for the immediate future in cooperative grain marketing and it is confidently expected that farmers will avail themselves of the opportunity offered them through their own organizations."

Iowa Agri-
culture

An editorial in The Daily Argus-Leader (Sioux Falls, S.Dak.) for November 16 says: "Dr. O. E. Sweeney of Iowa State College said something the other day that should make many thoughtful persons stop and listen. Explaining that agriculture is now Iowa's predominant industry, he expressed the belief that further progress is dependent upon the expansion of the manufacturing industry within the State. It is his contention that the saturation point has been reached in respect to agricultural development and that thought should now be given to the establishment of more factories to convert Iowa's raw products into finished goods within the borders of the State. The Iowan discusses a subject that should receive more attention. It is quite true that some long-established divisions of the farm industry have reached the point where additional development is limited. There is no purpose, for example, in expanding the Nation's wheat acreage because the present acreage produces more than the normal demand. But there are new fields of endeavor on the farms. Not all things that can be produced on the farms are being raised in quantities in excess of the demand. As an example, flax is not overproduced. And there are new commodities to be considered. Fine beet sugar can be produced throughout this territory. Proper tariffs, whenever they are possible, can be utilized to bring this phase of farming into its own. Even now beet sugar is returning a considerable revenue to farmers in some sections of the country. The whole matter of future development is a big problem. A desirable trend, however, is one in which attention is paid to the building of factories, the promotion of new farm products and the expansion of markets for old ones."

Kansas Land
Banks

"A moratorium does not mean that debts will be diminished or canceled and the suggestion itself is utterly absurd and impossible though many persons, acting upon sundry selfish motives, propose and advocate it with apparent sincerity and quite evident seriousness," said John Fields, president of the Federal Land Bank of Wichita which operates in Kansas, Colorado, New Mexico and Oklahoma. "They will be the same

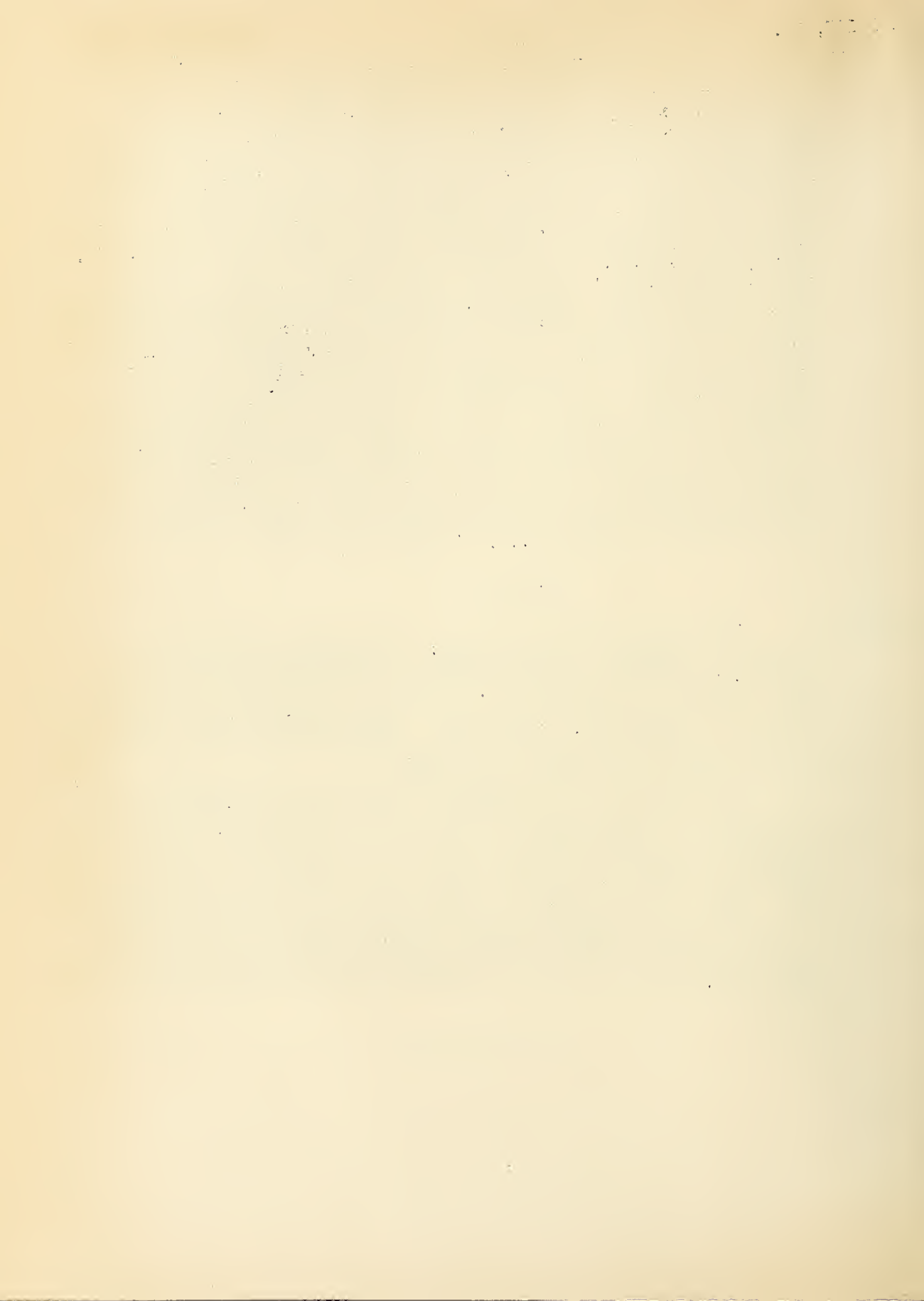
old debts a year from now that they now are, except they will have grown and developed amazingly. If delinquent taxes are part of the debt, they will have grown under the operation of State laws at a rate of percentage increase far beyond what state laws solemnly designate as usurious rates of interest. More taxes have been levied and these will soon be due. If not paid they will be delinquent next fall and the adding of usurious penalties will pile on additional burdens. If, through the operation of a moratorium, farms were not sold for delinquent taxes this fall, they would be sold twice for taxes next fall, with penalties piled on penalties. But there will be no moratorium on taxes and can be none. Despite the fact that the 12 Federal Land Banks own only about an eighth of the total of farm mortgages in the United States, it has been strongly urged that complete relief to all farmers would come quickly if these banks were to be 'lenient' and go broke through agreeing to refrain from all attempts to collect payments from borrowers as they become due. However, the Federal Land Bank System is a cooperative institution owned by farmers through their national farm loan associations. More than three-fourths of all borrowers from the banks pay promptly and, to avoid losing their investments in stock of the associations, they are interested that all other borrowers be required to pay what they owe...." (Press, Nov. 24.)

Section 3

Department of
Agriculture

The press of November 22 says: "Remarkable achievement, rivaling the wizardry of Luther Burbank in development of new fruits, vegetables, and flowers, brought the award of the George Robert White Medal of Honor, for 'eminent service in horticulture' to Dr. Frederick V. Coville, of Washington. The medal, highest horticultural award in America, is bestowed annually by the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, the oldest body of its kind in the Nation.

"A long series of botanical discoveries and experiments have won for Doctor Coville world-wide fame. He is Principal Botanist of the Department of Agriculture and chairman of the research committee of the National Geographic Society. Many of his studies have been of great economic importance....Doctor Coville made an astounding discovery, which seemed to defy the laws of nature, when he determined that certain plants needed to be chilled in order to grow. Forty years ago he made the first botanical survey of Death Valley, publishing his findings which, ever since, have been the standard work on the plant life of that amazing desert."



Section 4

MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

Nov. 23.—Grain prices: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis $72\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to $74\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.2 red winter St. Louis 59 to $60\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Kansas City $55\frac{1}{2}$ to $57\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.2 hard winter Kansas City $51\frac{3}{4}$ to 54¢; No.3 mixed corn Chicago $42\frac{3}{4}$ to 43¢ (new); Minneapolis 45 to 46¢; Kansas City 45 to 46¢; No.3 yellow corn Chicago $44\frac{1}{2}$ to $45\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Minneapolis 51 to 52¢; St. Louis $41\frac{1}{2}$ to $42\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City $45\frac{1}{2}$ to $46\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No. 3 white oats Chicago $26\frac{1}{2}$ to $26\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Minneapolis $27\frac{5}{8}$ to $28\frac{5}{8}$ ¢; St. Louis $26\frac{3}{4}$ to $27\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

Livestock: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers; steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$3 to \$13; cows, good and choice \$4 to \$5.25; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$6.50 to \$10.25; vealers, good and choice \$5 to \$7; feeder and stocker cattle; steers, good and choice \$3.75 to \$7.25; heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.), good and choice \$4.25 to \$4.45; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$4.25 to \$4.50; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$3.75 to \$4.15 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$5.25 to \$6.50; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$4 to \$5.

Maine sacked Green Mountain potatoes ranged 80¢-\$1.10 per 100 pounds in eastern cities. Eastern sacked Round Whites 90¢-\$1 in city markets; 65¢-70¢ f.o.b. Rochester. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites 80¢-90¢ carlot sales in Chicago; 55¢-60¢ f.o.b. Waupaca. New York Yellow varieties of onions \$1-\$1.40 per 50-pound sacks in the East; \$1.10-\$1.25 f.o.b. Rochester. Midwestern yellows 85¢-\$1.40 in consuming centers; \$2.25 per 100 pounds f.o.b. West Michigan. Virginia East Shore Jersey type sweet potatoes \$1-\$1.75 per stave barrel in eastern city markets. Maryland and Delaware Jersey type 40¢-85¢ per bushel hamper in the East. Tennessee Nancy Halls 85¢-90¢ in Chicago. New York Danish type cabbage \$15-\$20 bulk per ton in terminal markets \$10-\$12 f.o.b. Rochester. Northern Danish type retrimmed \$15-\$18 in St. Louis; \$16 f.o.b. Racine. New York McIntosh apples, No.1, $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches up, \$1.75-\$2; Rhode Island Greenings \$1.37 $\frac{1}{2}$ and Northwestern Greenings \$1.25-\$1.37 $\frac{1}{2}$ per bushel basket in New York City; Baldwins 85¢ f.o.b. Rochester. Maryland, Pennsylvania and Virginia Yorks 65¢; Romes 75¢-85¢; Delicious \$1 and Staymans 65¢ per bushel basket in New York City.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in the ten designated markets declined 1 point to 5.65¢ per lb. On the corresponding day one year ago the price stood at 10.01¢. December future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange remained unchanged at 6.00¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange remained unchanged at 5.99¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 31¢; 91 score, $30\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; 90 score, 30¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, $13\frac{1}{2}$ to 15¢; Single Daisies, $14\frac{1}{4}$ to $14\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Young Americas, $14\frac{1}{2}$ to 15¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)



DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XLIII, No. 48

Section 1

November 25, 1931.

BANK BANKING POLICY CHANGE

"Fundamental changes in the national banking policy were recommended yesterday by a special committee of the Federal Reserve System," the press today says. "The report emphasizes the necessity for maintaining a more effective stabilizing relationship between bank reserves and the expansion of commercial credits. The committee proposes to abolish completely existing classification of deposits into time and demand categories and to require a flat reserve of 5 per cent on combined net deposits. In addition, each bank would be required to maintain in reserve a fund equal to 50 per cent of its daily average debits to deposit accounts. This last provision is calculated to work as a credit stabilizer by forcing relatively larger reserves against deposits which turn over more rapidly. Finally, the committee would make the reserve margin the same for both city and country banks--5 per cent--but would require rural banks to keep a larger portion of their reserves in their own vaults while granting to those banks which are closer to the great central reserve banks the privilege of depositing a larger proportion of their reserves therein."

RAIL PAY CUTS AWAIT MEETING

A New York dispatch today says: "Prominent railroads of the Nation, as represented by the eastern presidents' conference which met in New York Nov. 24, virtually presented an ultimatum to all union workers that wages must be voluntarily reduced within the next few weeks or formal action would be taken to forcibly bring about such reduction. Meeting at the Bankers' Club, thirty-one rail officials...agreed to take no further action in the wage matter until the meeting in Chicago, December 8, of 1,500 representatives of union organizations. It was stressed, however, that wage cuts averaging at least ten per cent all along the line were absolutely necessary to save the carriers from the economic morass and that there was 'considerable hope' these reductions would be voluntary on the part of the workers. The Chicago meeting, it was concluded, will answer the question of whether there will be a battle between employers and employees or a 'peaceful economic acceptance of the situation.'"

FARM BOARD REPORTS

Figures on the stabilization operations of the Federal Farm Board were given to the Senate Committee on Agriculture yesterday by Chairman James C. Stone, the press says today. The figures, which were from the annual report of the board, showed that the Farm Board had bought wheat up to June 30, 1931, at a cost of \$270,204,303.78, or an average price of 81.97 cents a bushel. Sales for export, milling and other purposes amounted to 72,504,481 bushels, leaving 257,136,571 bushels owned by the Grain Stabilization Corporation last June 30. Up to Nov. 1, sales of stabilization wheat were made to Brazil, 25,000,000 bushels; to China, 15,000,000 bushels, and to Germany, 7,500,000 bushels. In addition, sales in regular trade channels had nearly equaled the 5,000,000-bushel monthly cumulative maximum, in accordance with the board's statement of June 30. Wheat still owned by the Stabilization Corporation on Nov. 1 amounted to 189,656,187 bushels..

Section 2

Costa Rican Food Regulation "Detailed regulations on the preparation, distribution, and sale of food products were issued by President Gonzalez Viquez on June 20, 1931...The present regulations are the first general body of legislation to be enacted in the Republic on this subject." (La Gaceta, San Jose, July 14.)

Livestock Committees The Live Stock Advisory Committee has submitted a report to the Federal Farm Board recommending that the board appoint a committee of fifty representatives of various groups and agencies interested in the swine industry and a similar committee interested in cattle and sheep production whose purpose would be to recommend to the Live Stock Advisory Committee national production policies with respect to hogs, cattle, and sheep. The committee also recommended that efforts be made by the Farm Board to find additional foreign markets for American agricultural commodities, also that trade standards for market classes and grades of cattle and sheep should be encouraged. The committee recommended further that the provisions of the Packers and Stockyards Act should be strictly enforced so that trading on the terminal markets be kept free and open in the best interest of livestock producers. (Press, Nov. 24.)

Section 3

Department of Agriculture

An editorial in The Wall Street Journal for November 23 says: "That land can be abused as well as used was well established by Secretary Hyde in his opening address at the land utilization conference at Chicago. He was not speaking of that system of farming that robs the soil of its fertility without putting anything back, mining it as surely as coal or copper is mined, but was dealing with farming on submarginal lands. These he defined as lands on which no skillful farmer can support a decent standard of living. Secretary Hyde reminded us that within the past few years many millions of acres of farm lands have been sold for taxes or abandoned; that in one State in 1927 there were 2,600,000 acres sold for taxes of which 1,800,000 acres reverted to the counties; that in another State, in the East, an annual average of 272,000 acres has been abandoned since 1920. Citing results of investigations in scattered communities of submarginal areas, he mentioned one in an eastern State, where 2,500 farm people lived, in which the year's labor income averaged \$98 per farm....It would not be possible for State or Federal Governments to reforest all this land or even so much of it as is suitable for reforestation, as a part of the public domain. Perhaps it would not be advisable. But at this same conference Major R.Y. Stuart, Chief of the Forest Service, submitted a long-time program for handling submarginal lands, which included development of a forest crop law in which the States would share in the expense of maintenance until the timber matured, and by education provide a type of forest management on areas adapted to private utilization. Such a program offers at least a partial cure for the abuse of land."

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XLIII, No. 49

Section 1

November 27, 1931.

BRITISH FARM TARIFF

Customs duties on agricultural imports are next in line in the new tariff policy launched by the British government this week, with the levy of 50 per cent duties on certain classes of manufactured articles. On Monday, Prime Minister Ramsay MacDonald informed the House of Commons, a financial resolution will be presented to authorize an agricultural customs levy. (Press, Nov. 27.)

FIGHT SUGAR RESTRICTION

A Havana cable to the New York Times says: "Organized opposition to any restriction on Cuba's 1931-1932 sugar crop was launched at a meeting at Santa Clara yesterday under the auspices of the National Association of Cane Planters. A unanimous decision to work for the cancellation of all international sugar agreements to which Cuba is a party was reached by 1,500 planters, backed by representatives of many branches of Cuban industry, commerce and labor...."

UNEMPLOYMENT FIGURES

The rate of increase of unemployment was checked during November, and was seasonally lower than even in the most prosperous years, although the actual number of unemployed in industry was brought to a new high level, William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, said yesterday. The October-early November period was the first since last February in which the rate of unemployment increase was not more than normal, Green pointed out. Estimating the total unemployed union members at 20 per cent, he commented: "One encouraging fact appears from our weighted figures: unemployment in November has increased no more than is usual at this season, even in the most prosperous years. In October also, the increase in industrial unemployment was no more than seasonal." (Press, Nov. 27.)

SUPPORT LAVAL

The press reports today: "Premier Pierre Laval's foreign policy, which has been raked by opposition criticism of his trip to Washington and defended by government spokesmen during a debate occupying several sessions of the Chamber of Deputies, was vindicated in three separate votes early this morning. The premier was accorded confidence by majorities running from 45 to 175. The best the government had expected was 30. The votes were the first expression by the chamber since M. Laval's detailed report on his Washington journey."

O'BRIEN NEW TARIFF HEAD

The press says: "Robert Lincoln O'Brien of Dedham, Mass., former Boston editor, who was the personal stenographer of President Cleveland from 1892 to 1895, was appointed today to be chairman of the Tariff Commission. He will succeed Henry P. Fletcher of Pennsylvania, recently resigned. Mr. O'Brien, long known as a newspaper man in New England, is also well known in Washington, where from 1895 to 1906 he was the correspondent of The Boston Transcript...."

Section 2

COTTON
TWINE
STUDIED

The press Nov. 25 says: "The Bureau of Standards will help settle one of Postmaster General Brown's problems. This is the moot question whether the department is to use jute or cotton string for the first six months of next year. Bids for 1,360,000 pounds of twine from manufacturers of both kinds were opened yesterday and on a basis of low estimates, jute won. However, samples from all the bidders will be tested by the bureau before a contract is awarded. With the idea of helping reduce the cotton surplus, Brown some time ago culled for bids for cotton twine only. Jute had been used for years. The jute manufacturers protested and a call went out for bids from all."

GOODS
FLOWN TO
ENGLAND

A London dispatch of Nov. 24 says: "A record number of airplanes rushed to Croydon Airport today with goods from the Continent to avoid the new anti-dumping duties, coming into force at midnight. They had to clear their merchandise before 4 p.m. The planes brought hundreds of bales of woolsens, cases of typewriter parts, razor blades, pocket knives, cutlery, thousands of pairs of fabric gloves and hundreds of packages of paper labels. The influx was incessant, the machines arriving in twos and threes from Paris, Berlin and Cologne. Two of them brought 140 wireless sets, in addition to other goods."

Section 3

Department
of Agri-
culture

An editorial in Farm and Ranch for November 14 says: "The dairy industry would be infinitely more prosperous if we would can all of the nonprofitable cows. It would not be a wide guess to state that were that done we would reduce our herds fully 40 per cent in many States. The unprofitable cow, like unprofitable acres, creates the surplus and lowers the price of all the production. The Bureau of Animal Husbandry, Department of Agriculture, had an educational exhibit at the State Fair of Texas. There was one exhibit that would have been worth the time of every dairyman and dairy farmer to have studied. There was nothing complicated about it, but it showed that by doubling the production of butterfat per cow, it increased the profits from that cow more than five times. It showed that a cow producing 400 pounds of butterfat per year was equal to ten cows producing 100 pounds per cow. These conclusions were not arrived at by guess, but by actual demonstrations. Any dairy farmer who gives the matter serious thought will not delay the culling of his herd. Butterfat can be produced at a very low cost by feeding properly the right kind of cows."

Section 4

MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

Nov. 24.--Grain prices: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis 74 $\frac{1}{8}$ to 76 $\frac{1}{8}$ ¢; No.2 red winter St. Louis 59 to 60¢; Kansas City 56 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.2 hard winter Kansas City 51 $\frac{1}{4}$ to 52 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.3 mixed corn Chicago 45 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Minneapolis 45 to 46¢; No.3 yellow corn Chicago 45 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Minneapolis 51 to 52¢; St. Louis 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 42¢; Kansas City 45 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 47¢; No.3 white oats Chicago 26 to 27¢; Minneapolis 28 $\frac{1}{8}$ to 29 $\frac{1}{8}$ ¢; St. Louis 28¢; Kansas City 29 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 30 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

Livestock: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers, steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$8 to \$13; cows, good and choice \$4 to \$5.25; heifers, (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$6.50 to \$10.25; vealers, good and choice \$5.25 to \$7.50; feeder and stocker cattle, steers, good and choice \$3.75 to \$7.25; heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$4.20 to \$4.40; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$4.25 to \$4.40; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$3.60 to \$4.15 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$5.25 to \$6.65; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$4 to \$5.

Maine sacked Green Mountain potatoes ranged 80¢-\$1.05 per 100 pounds in eastern cities; 40¢-45¢ f.o.b. Presque Isle. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites 80¢-90¢ carlot sales in Chicago; few 58¢-60¢ f.o.b. Wau-paca. New York and Midwestern sacked yellow varieties of onions brought 85¢-\$1.40 per 50-pound sacks in consuming centers; \$1.10-\$1.20 f.o.b. Rochester and one car \$1 f.o.b. West Michigan points. New York Danish type cabbage \$15-\$18 bulk per ton in terminal markets; top of \$20 in Cincinnati with f.o.b. sales \$10-\$12 in Rochester. Northern Danish type \$20-\$22 in St. Louis; \$16-\$17 f.o.b. Racine. Virginia East Shore Jersey type sweet potatoes \$1-\$1.65 per stave barrel in eastern city markets. Tennessee Nancy Halls 85¢-90¢ per bushel hamper in Chicago. New York McIntosh apples, No.1, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches up, \$1.50-\$2; Rhode Island Greenings \$1.25 and Wealthys 75¢-\$1 per bushel basket in New York City. Eastern McIntosh \$1.50-\$2; Delicious \$1 and Black Twigs 90¢ in New York City.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 31 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; 91 score, 31¢; 90 score, 30¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 15¢; Single Daisies, 14 $\frac{1}{4}$ to 14 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Young Americas, 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 15¢.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in the ten designated markets advanced 26 points to 5.31¢ per lb. On the corresponding day one year ago the price stood at 9.98¢. December future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 25 points to 6.25¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange advanced 26 points to 6.25¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XLIII, No. 50

Section 1

November 28, 1931.

HEAR RAIL POOL PLAN

The Interstate Commerce Commission today will hear arguments on the pooling plan proposed by certain railroads as a substitute for the plan outlined by the Commission in response to the railroads' application for higher freight rates. Several important railroads have not joined in the plan. Roads that favor the plan propose to make material increases in certain groups of rates and to pool the gains for the purpose of making loans to lines that are not able to pay interest on their bonds. The commission's decision on the proposed rate advance contained a strong intimation that the roads would be expected to consider each system united by common ownership and control as a single entity, but the roads are proposing to ignore this intimation and to treat each line that makes an operating report as entitled to obtain funds from the pool. (Press, Nov. 28.)

DEFEND FARM BOARD

Two Farm Board field generals yesterday defended their tactics on the wheat and cotton battle fronts. E. F. Creekmore, \$75,000 a year general manager of the Cotton Stabilization Corporation and the American Cotton Cooperative Association, told the Senate agriculture committee the farmers' benefit from stabilization was worth its cost. George S. Milnor, \$50,000-a-year general manager of the Grain Stabilization Corporation and the Farmers National Grain Corporation, testified to the financial success of the cooperative movement. Senator Bulkley of Ohio described the board's stabilization operations as a "dismal failure." He added that he would like to see the cooperative activities continued, but said that function of the board could be transferred to the Agriculture Department. (Associated Press)

FEAR FOR ZUNI AND NAVAJO SHEEP

A Gallup, N. Mex., dispatch says: "Searchers for 500 Zuni and Navajo Indians, whose fate is locked behind high snow drifts covering the mesas of northwestern New Mexico, today feared the storm which has exacted a known toll of seven lives also has struck at flocks of goats and sheep, main wealth of the redmen. Unable to breast the deep snow, at least 25,000 sheep and goats are known to be snowbound in the area. Superintendent Trotter said disaster threatens unless the snow melts sufficiently in the next two days to release them." (Press, Nov. 28.)

COTTON BELT EFFORTS

Raymond Clapper in a copyrighted dispatch to the United Press from Atlanta says: "All energies in the South are being devoted to restoring King Cotton to normal health. His depressed condition is delaying economic recovery in a large geographical section of the Nation and the leaders in the eleven cotton States are tackling their problem heroically with a willingness to take any dose of bitter medicine necessary to recovery. For this reason, business conditions in southern cities are dependent on further developments. When the South cuts down its cotton yield to a point commensurate with the demand, cotton farmers will have money to spend and business will profit. To this end representatives of ten of the cotton growing States have agreed to seek to cut next year's acreage in half...."

Section 2

Commodities By Train-load A special train of 171 cars of lumber was regarded as reflecting better times today by officials of the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railway, over whose lines it moved from Westwood, Calif., to widely scattered destinations. Pointing to a pick-up of single commodity movements in single trains, R. G. Merrick, assistant freight traffic manager of the Santa Fe, said the line's train-load movements in the past few weeks included lumber, citrus fruit, grapes, wheat, sheep, beef cattle and silk. (Press, Nov. 27.)

Copenhagen Cabinet to Protect Farm Industry A Copenhagen report says: "The Cabinet Nov. 25 submitted a number of new measures to protect the farming industry and also regarding the purchase of foreign currency needed for imports of fodder. The government intends to apply restrictions to imports of luxury goods. Extension of the restrictions to other goods will be decided on later." (N.Y. Times, Nov. 27.)

Soviet Buys Blooded Bulls The press yesterday carries a Montevideo report that Yuyamtorg, the Soviet trading organization, announces it soon will ship to Russia 500 Uruguayan bulls purchased at a cost of 75,000 pesos (\$35,000). Most of these cattle are Herefords, but some are short-horns. They average in age from 8 to 22 months. Soviet cattle buyers came here about a month ago to negotiate, paying an average price of 150 pesos (\$75).

Wool Cooperatives The Federal Farm Board made the following announcement: "Wool and mohair cooperatives are invited by the Federal Farm Board to establish a Wool and Mohair Advisory Committee of seven members of whom at least two shall be experienced handlers or processors of one or both of these products. A meeting for this purpose is called to be held in Chicago at 2 o'clock p.m. on December 8, 1931...The Chicago meeting will be called to order by the president of the National Wool Marketing Corporation. The advisory committee selected at that time will serve for one year, beginning January 1, 1932."

Section 3

Department of Agriculture The Coast Guard, which chases rum-runners in addition to saving lives, has been given the added duty of apprehending hunters who shoot ducks and geese out of season in violation of the migratory bird act. The Agriculture Department announced the Coast Guard is instructing all its Atlantic and Gulf Coast stations to report all violations coming to their attention. (Wash. Post, Nov. 27.)

Section 4
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm
Products

Nov. 25.--Livestock prices at Chicago: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers, steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$8 to \$13; cows, good and choice, \$4 to \$5.25; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$6.50 to \$10.25; vealers, good and choice \$5.50 and \$7.50; feeder and stocker cattle; steers, good and choice \$3.75 to \$7.25. Hogs, heavy weight (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$4.40 to \$4.55; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$4.35 to \$4.60; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations) \$3.75 to \$4.25. Sheep, slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$5.75 to \$7; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$4 to \$5.

Average price Middling spot cotton in the ten designated markets declined 19 points to 5.72¢ per lb. On the corresponding day one year ago the price stood at 9.88¢. December future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 18 points to 6.07¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 19 points to 6.06¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 31¢; 91 score, 30½¢; 90 score, 29¢.

Wholesale prices of No. 1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 13½ to 15¢; Single Daisies, 14½ to 14¾¢; Young Americas, 14½ to 15¢.

Maine sacked Green Mountain potatoes ranged 95¢-\$1.05 per 100 pounds in eastern cities; 42½-45¢ f.o.b. Presque Isle. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites 80¢-90¢ carlot sales in Chicago; few 58¢-60¢ f.o.b. Waupaca. Virginia East Shore Jersey type sweet potatoes \$1-\$1.60 in the East. Tennessee Nancy Halls 85¢-90¢ per bushel basket in Chicago. New York and Midwestern yellow varieties of onions 85¢-\$1.40 per 50-pound sack in consuming centers; 90¢-95¢ f.o.b. West Michigan points. New York Danish type cabbage 15-\$18 bulk per ton in terminal markets; \$10-\$12 f.o.b. Rochester. Northern Danish type fair \$20-\$22 in St. Louis; \$16-\$17 f.o.b. Racine. New York Rhode Island Greening apples, No. 1, 2½ inches up, \$1.25; McIntosh \$1.50-\$2 in New York City. Michigan Rhode Island Greenings \$1.40-\$1.50; Grimes 75¢-85¢ and Baldwins 75¢-90¢ in Chicago. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XLIII, No. 51

Section 1

November 30, 1931.

INDIVIDUAL INCOMES

A decrease during 1930 of \$7,073,865,119 in the individual net income of the Nation as compared with 1929 was reported yesterday by the Internal Revenue Bureau. The number of those having incomes above \$500,000 was cut in half. Income of individuals fell off 29.12 per cent to \$17,220,753,620 and 574,705 fewer persons filed income tax returns. The tax collected on the income showed a 52.20 per cent drop of \$517,-247,417 to \$473,689,563. (Press, Nov. 30.)

COMMERCE SEC- RETARY'S ANNUAL REPORT

Secretary Mamont's annual report to the President, issued yesterday, presents a detailed picture of declines in all branches of American industry, trade, commerce and finance which retarded their development during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1931. In an "economic review" of the period, the report said: "During the fiscal year ended June 30, 1931, the United States suffered from a severe depression world-wide in extent. The accumulation of large stocks of raw materials and food-stuffs throughout the world, extensive declines in the prices of commodities, securities and real estate, the unsettlement of political and fiscal conditions in many foreign countries, widespread unemployment in the leading industrial nations, have all contributed to the difficulties of the United States, which have been further accentuated by the effects of a severe drought throughout a large portion of our agricultural area."

LIVESTOCK HONORS

A Chicago dispatch today says: "The corn belt shared honors with Dixie Saturday in the intercollegiate judging championships at the International Live Stock Show. Iowa State College, of Ames, for the tenth time, won the livestock judging crown, amassing a total of 4,542 points, against 4,528 for the second-place team from Oklahoma A. and M. of Stillwater. The crop-judging championship was won by North Carolina Agricultural College, of Raleigh, with a total of 3,848 points. This was the Southern ers' third win, giving them permanent possession of the stockyard's trophy."

GERMANY'S CREDIT PAY- MENTS

Dr. Hans Luther, president of the German Reichsbank, is quoted by the Associated Press today as saying: "The Reichsbank's sale of gold and foreign bills during recent weeks has attracted unusual attention both in Germany and abroad. The opinion is widespread that Germany, under the standstill agreement and in view of her active trade balance, ought even to be able to replenish her supply of gold and foreign exchange. However, this so-called standstill agreement contains so many exceptions and gaps that the unfavorable development of gold and foreign exchange reserves of the Reichsbank is in the largest measure explained by it...."

Section 2

California
Farm Banks

A Berkeley, Calif., dispatch November 24 says: "The service rendered by the Federal Intermediate Credit Bank of Berkeley, which discounts farmers' agricultural notes for local institutions and makes commodity loans directly to farmers' cooperative marketing associations, continues to increase. The statement of the bank for September 30 shows that it had discounts outstanding amounting to \$12,513,147, which was nearly a million dollars more than on a similar date in 1930, and that the loans to farmers' cooperative marketing associations amounted to \$5,461,495, being virtually the same amount as a year ago. The Berkeley Federal Intermediate Credit Bank does business in California, Arizona, Nevada and Utah. It covers a territory where cooperative marketing is particularly strong and that possibly accounts for the fact that the loans closed with cooperative marketing associations from the organization of the bank in 1923 to date total approximately \$106,000,000...."

Lumber
Surplus

An editorial in The Daily Pantagraph (Bloomington, Ill.) for November 16 says: "The farmers are not the only ones who have the problem of reducing a surplus. The Government timber conservation board, Secretary of Commerce Lamont, chairman, has recently received the second report of the special lumber survey committee. It says that the lumber industry generally has responded promptly and earnestly to the committee's suggestions published August 1, and since the beginning of the year has reduced surplus stocks a billion and a half feet. The volume of lumber consumption had within three years declined nearly one-half. The national excess as of October 1 was estimated at four and a half billion feet; and it is positively recommended that this reduction be made within the next year. Figures and reasons are given in detail. Small home construction still offers the best potential lumber market in building, says the committee, and: 'The substantial reductions in costs of building materials have not as yet been generally followed by comparable reductions in other building costs. Pooling of stocks and consolidation of sales is recommended to groups of manufacturers in order to have the necessary assortment of lumber items and to economize on working capital. In its final summary the committee urges that extraordinary corrective measures are justified; and that prompt and extensive reduction of excess stocks will substantially shorten the present period of depletion of the industry's capital assets. It says that the deliberate restraint of production should be continued until the stocks have been reduced to a level that is economical and stable in marketing.' These recommendations are very similar to those given by many authorities to farmers concerning their overproduction."

Meat Prices

A fairly strong consumer demand for all meat products featured the meat trade during the month closing today, according to a review of the livestock and meat situation issued by the Institute of American Meat Packers. Wholesale prices of pork products are now substantially lower than a year ago. For example, fresh hams are now about 45 per cent lower than a year ago; some grades of bacon are 40 per cent lower; smoked hams, 28 to 38 per cent lower; fresh loins from 25 to 50 per cent lower; fresh shoulders 51 per cent lower. Demand for the better grades of dressed beef was in good ratio to the supply, and trade in top grades was active. Although the export situation continued to be generally

unsatisfactory, the demand for lard on the Continent was better than it was in October. Sales of meats in the United Kingdom were rather restricted, and prices continued to remain below parity with the domestic market. Production of hides and sales of leather showed a seasonable reduction that has usually been experienced at this time of the year. Sales remained at steady prices. There was a good volume of wool business at slightly higher prices than those that prevailed in October. Pickled skinned market was unchanged.

Milk Production

An editorial in The Michigan Farmer for November 14 says: "The annual meeting of the Michigan Milk Producers' Association held at Michigan State College proved a most exciting gathering. The 523 delegates assembled to consider the policy and the management of the business of 16,000 milk producers for the coming year. Attempts to stampede the representatives looked as if they might be successful at the opening of the morning session, but it soon became evident that the majority did not seem disposed to 'trade horses in the middle of the stream.' And now that the delegates have spoken, the most needed thing to make the work of the organization effective in this critical time is loyalty on the part of the membership."

Scientific Congress at Mexico City

Dr. Alfonso Pruneda, writing on "The Seventh American Scientific Congress" in The Pan American Union Bulletin for November, says: "...Thus, with the events outlined above as a background, the Seventh American Scientific Congress will be formally opened in Mexico City on February 5, 1932, the anniversary of the promulgation of the Mexican Constitution of 1917, under the auspices of the Departments of Foreign Relations and Public Education, and the special patronage of the President of the Republic. Its sessions will be attended by the official delegates of the Governments of the various countries of America, including Canada; representatives from the universities and other scientific organizations of the continent, and the large group of scientists of North, Central, and South America who accept the cordial invitation already issued and now repeated by the Organizing Committee....All the sections of the congress offer an excellent opportunity for the presentation not only of works of pure science or speculative reasoning, but for reports on the practical application of scientific principles in each country...."

South's Livestock Need

An editorial in Southern Cultivator for November 15 says: "Speaking at a meeting recently held in Savannah, Ga., H. McDowell, manager of the packing plant at Moultrie, Ga., said that despite the advance made in raising cattle and hogs in south Georgia only one-fourth of the demand to supply that plant has been created....There are thousands upon thousands of acres of land in the southeast that is ideal for permanent pastures, and better fitted for that part of farming operations than for cropping, and it has been demonstrated time and again, notwithstanding arguments to the contrary, that good pastures can be established and maintained in this section....The Southeast has the climate and the market; it has all the natural advantages to make it take the lead in the production of cattle, hogs and sheep. All it needs is the determination of farmers of this section to take advantage of the opportunity that lies before them."

Tuberculosis
Eradication

An editorial in *Successful Farming* for December says: "Tuberculosis eradication work has meant much to farmers in stopping livestock losses. The number of condemned animals in packing plants is only about a third what it was when tuberculosis eradication work began. Hog losses have been reduced to less than half. The actual number of reactors in the testing work is reduced to a third. Four States are already 'modified accredited' and others will be soon. We are within striking distance of the elimination of this disease from our cattle. When we contrast this with tubercular losses in Europe we see that the American livestock man is in infinitely better position than his European brother who let the disease run rampant till he may never be able to overcome it. Michigan was the first important livestock State to be 'modified accredited.' Here only 10 per cent of the human cases of tuberculosis is of the cattle or bovine strain. But in the hospitals of Edinburgh, Scotland, as much as 70 per cent of the human cases of tuberculosis is of the bovine strain. Elimination of bovine tuberculosis is stopping livestock losses and is reducing the human death rate. In the face of overwhelming evidence in favor of the tuberculin test it is regrettable that a small minority in some sections should choose to oppose it. Reputable men from some of the communities involved tell us that 90 per cent of the farmers in those localities want the test. Reporters and sensational newspaper stories which tell only half of the truth would leave a gullible public thinking that entire rural communities are in open rebellion. There is opposition and it is well organized. But the opposition is a small minority....The spread of the disease must be stopped. The man who cleans up his herd now will emerge in much stronger position with a clean herd when values come back to normal. The fight is being won."

Weather
Fore-
casting

Nature (London) for October 31 says: "The Quarterly Journal of the Royal Meteorological Society for July 1931 contains an interesting survey of the present position of weather forecasting, by C.K.M. Douglas. The author pays tribute to the work of J. Bjerknes and other Norwegian meteorologists, who have developed in greater detail the system of analysis of synoptic weather charts according to the past history of the different air streams begun by Shaw and Lempfert many years ago in 'The Life History of Surface Air Currents.' He points out that for short-period forecasting the value of the method is undoubted, especially for periods up to twelve hours ahead. Any adequate discussion, however, of practical forecasting must always take note of peculiar tendencies observed, at least in European weather, described as 'persistence of type' and 'mood.' An excellent example of the first is mentioned, that of the severe spring snowstorms of April 2 and 11, 1917. The synoptic charts that accompanied these storms are said to have had features in common not shared by any other charts during the present century. The second tendency is for rain to be absent in certain seasons when the distribution of pressure is such that in an ordinary year it would be accompanied by rain at that season...."



Section 3 MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

Nov. 27.--Livestock prices at Chicago: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers; steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice, \$8 to \$13; cows, good and choice, \$4 to \$5.25; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice, \$6.50 to \$10; vealers, good and choice \$5.50 to \$7.75; feeder and stocker cattle; steers, good and choice \$5.50 to \$7. Hogs, heavy weight (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$4.30 to \$4.45; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$4.25 to \$4.40; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations) \$3.75 to \$4.15. Sheep, slaughter sheep and lambs: lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$5.50 to \$6.65; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$4 to \$5.

Maine sacked Green Mountain potatoes 80¢-\$1.05 per 100 pounds in eastern cities; 45¢ f.o.b. Presque Isle. Eastern sacked Round Whites 85¢-95¢ in city markets; 65¢-70¢ f.o.b. Rochester. Wisconsin sacked stock 80¢-85¢ carlot sales in Chicago; few 57¢-60¢ f.o.b. Waupaca. New York and Midwestern yellow onions 90¢-\$1.50 per 50-pound sacks in consuming centers; \$1.25-\$1.30 f.o.b. Rochester. New York Danish type cabbage \$16-\$20 bulk per ton in terminal markets; \$11-\$12 f.o.b. Rochester. Northern Danish type retrimmed \$20-\$22 in St. Louis; \$17-\$18 f.o.b. Racine. Virginia Jersey type sweet potatoes \$1-\$1.75 per stave barrel in city markets. Tennessee Nancy Halls 90¢-\$1.25 per bushel hamper in Chicago. New York Rhode Island Greening apples, No.1, 2½ inches up, \$1.25-\$1.37½; McIntosh \$1.50-\$1.62½ and Baldwins 90¢-\$1 per bushel basket in New York City; Baldwins 85¢ f.o.b. and Rhode Island Greenings \$1.40 in Rochester.

Grain prices: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis 69 7/8¢ to 71 7/8¢; No.2 red winter, St. Louis 55¢ to 56¢; Kansas City 51¢ to 54½¢ (Nom); No.2 hard winter, Chicago 55½¢; Kansas City 47½¢ to 50¢; No.3 mixed corn, Chicago 38½¢ to 39½¢ (New); Minneapolis 42¢ to 43¢; Kansas City 43¢ to 44¢; No.3 yellow, Chicago 42¢; Minneapolis 49¢ to 50¢; St. Louis 38¢ to 39¢; Kansas City 42¢ to 44½¢; No.3 white oats, Chicago 24¢ to 25½¢; Minneapolis 26¢ to 27¢; St. Louis 27¢; Kansas City 29¢ to 30¢.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in the ten designated markets declined 7 points to 5.65¢ per lb. On the corresponding day one year ago the price stood at 9.74¢. December future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 8 points to 5.99¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 7 points to 5.99¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 31¢; 91 score, 30½¢; 90 score, 29¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 13½ to 15¢; Single Daisies, 14½ to 14¾¢; Young Americas 14½ to 15¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

Vol. XLIII, No. 52

Section 1

December 1, 1931.

FEDERAL RESERVE CREDIT Opposition to any marked change in the Federal Reserve laws, especially to broaden the base for paper eligible for rediscount, has been sounded by banks throughout the country, the sub-committee of the Senate banking and currency committee, of which Senator Glass is chairman, revealed yesterday in making public replies received to a questionnaire it sent out a year ago. (Press, Dec.1.)

THE PRESIDENT'S HOME LOAN PROGRAM The press today says: "A potential construction of 3,000,000 residences within the next five years under the President's program for a home building loan system to supplement the Federal Farm Loan System and the Reserve System was indicated yesterday by reports to the Treasury and Federal Reserve Board, following a comprehensive survey of the situation. Construction and building material interests have studied conditions involved in residential construction and have found, it was stated, even greater possibilities in this field than had been envisioned when the need of the program was first considered by President Hoover....."

BRITISH FOODSTUFF TARIFF A London dispatch today states that a British tariff on certain agricultural products, including fruits, vegetables and flowers, was authorized by the House of Commons last night. The report says: "A government resolution authorizing a duty on fresh fruits, early vegetables, flowers and bulbs was passed by a majority of 317.....Sir John Gilmour, Minister of Agriculture, who presented the agricultural tariff resolutions, announced that Canada and other dominions would receive a full exemption. Sir John announced the importations affected amounted to about \$55,000,000 a year, based on 1930 figures. The resolution was aimed chiefly at early crops such as potatoes from North Africa and the Canary Islands, and Sir John argued these products could not be considered as food for the people, as they are sold at extravagant prices. His resolution was modified to allow the Minister to fix specific duties whenever necessary as a substitute for ad valorem duties, with the provision that the specific duties do not exceed 100 per cent."

STERLING DECLINE The British pound sterling yesterday fell 12 cents to \$3.40, a new low for the year. It was the heaviest fall in this currency since the initial break when England suspended the gold standard in September.

RAIL INCOMES The press states that the first forty-seven railroads to report for October showed net operating incomes of \$52,551,000, against \$87,490,000 in October, 1930, a drop of 39.9 per cent, and against \$115,233,000 in October, 1929, a fall of 54.3 per cent. Their net operating income in September was \$44,481,000, against \$80,736,000 in September, 1930, a decline of 44.9 per cent.

Section 2

Automobile Fatalities A Hartford, Conn., dispatch today states that the Travelers Insurance Company reports that automobile fatalities for the first ten months this year have averaged ninety a day. Deaths as reported by States having about 35,000,000 population show an indicated country-wide increase in fatalities for the first ten months of 3.7 per cent. About 27,000 deaths have been attributed directly to automobiles. Of the thirty-two States and the District of Columbia which have represented complete figures so far as they are available only eleven show decreases from the corresponding period of last year. These are Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Kansas, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Hampshire, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Vermont.

Business Conditions A summary of general business and financial conditions in the United States, based upon statistics for the months of October and November, is issued by the Federal Reserve Board. This says: "Production and employment in manufacturing industries declined further in October, while output of minerals increased more than is usual at this season. There was a considerable decrease in the demand for reserve bank credit after the middle of October, reflecting a reduction in member bank reserve balances and, in November, an inflow of gold, largely from Japan. Conditions in the money market became somewhat easier. Total output of manufactures and minerals, as measured by the board's seasonally adjusted index of industrial production, declined from 76 per cent of the 1923-1925 average in September to 74 per cent in October. Output of steel remained unchanged at 28 per cent of capacity in October, although it usually shows an increase for that month; in the first half of November activity at steel mills increased somewhat. Automobile production declined sharply in October; production of shoes and woollens decreased and cotton mill activity showed little change, although an increase is usual at this season. Output of bituminous coal increased seasonally, and there were large increases in the output of anthracite and petroleum. Volume of factory employment declined substantially from the middle of September to the middle of October. At woolen mills where an increase in employment is usual this season, there was a large decrease. In the automobile and shoe industries reductions in employment were considerably larger than usual, while in the canning industry the decline was wholly of a seasonal character. In the silk goods and hosiery industries employment increased by more than the usual seasonal amount....."

Dairy Advisory Committee The Federal Farm Board announces that in accordance with the provisions of the Agricultural Marketing Act, the dairy cooperatives have established a dairy advisory committee for the year beginning December 1, 1931. Following are the members of the committee: Harry Hartke, Covington, Ky., Cooperative Pure Milk Association; C. E. Hough, Hartford, Conn., Connecticut Milk Producers Association; John Brandt, Litchfield, Minn., Land O'Lakes Creameries, Inc.; George W. Slocum, Milton, Penn., Dairy-men's League, Inc.; P. L. Betts, Chicago, Ill., Dairy and Poultry Cooperatives, Inc.; U. M. Dickey, Seattle, Wash., United Dairymen's Association; W. S. Moscrip, Lake Elmo, Minn., Twin Milk Producers Association.

Farm Courses in Colombia "On June 25, 1931, the Governor of the Department of Tolima issued a decree establishing a series of agricultural courses for farmers, to be given at the San Jorge experimental farm. Only those who farm on their own account or as employees on the lands of some one else are

permitted to take the courses....." (El Agricultor, Bogota, July 2.)

Fertilizer
Prices

An agricultural economics bulletin issued by the Rhode Island State College maintains that fertilizer prices next spring will probably show a reduction from those of last season. Nitrogen and phosphoric acid carriers are being delivered to mixers and wholesalers on the Atlantic seaboard at prices well below those of 1930. Prices of potash salts are about the same. Organic nitrogen carriers have had the largest reduction in price. Tankage, for example, is about 70 per cent below last year. Synthetic and inorganic nitrogen carriers are about one-third less. Wholesale quotations on phosphate are about 25 per cent below 1930. A new factor in the potash market is the production of domestic potash in the Western States. Last season domestic potash provided 20 per cent of the United States supply. The remainder came from Germany and France through a single marketing agency. Western domestic potash was sold in eastern markets for the first time in several years in 1931. In previous years it had all been used on the Pacific Coast, says the bulletin. (N.Y. Times, Nov.28.)

Intermediate
Credit
Banks

The record of the Federal Intermediate Credit Banks shows that since organization they have loaned or discounted in excess of a billion and a quarter dollars and the total charge-off has been only about three-tenths of 1 per cent. More than 118 cooperative marketing associations, with a total membership of 1,500,000, have been served by these banks since organization. "How can the services of the Intermediate Credit Banks be further extended into the rural communities and assist the individual farmers and thus, indirectly, the country banks? As deposits in country banks have contracted during the past two years, the officers and directors of these banks have become more interested than ever before in agricultural credit corporations and have organized these corporations as valuable allies to their institutions.....Recently much more interest has been manifested than formerly by country banks in establishing agricultural credit corporations. In many instances, the banks in an entire county or in a trade territory embracing several counties have jointly supplied both the capital and the management. This insures competent personnel, trained in the business of granting credit, and assures each stockholder that loans made will be of such high character as not to jeopardize continued operations. It also gives the corporation sufficient volume and profit to secure good management.....Another factor necessary to amplify the services of the Federal Intermediate Credit Banks to country banks is a more practical and workable arrangement with respect to interest rates.I would recommend intensive study to be given these two major questions, the solution of which will mark further material progress in extending the usefulness of the Intermediate Credit Bank system, namely; (1) a plan for the further development of the local institution to contact the farmer in the rural community; and (2) such latitude with respect to interest rates as would keep the Federal Intermediate Credit Bank rates commensurate with the risks involved." (From address by Wood Netherland, president of the Federal Land and Intermediate Credit Banks of St.Louis.)

Sugar Beet
Payments

A Denver, Colo., dispatch says: "Checks for \$17,476,000 were mailed recently by the Great Western Sugar Company to sugar beet growers in Colorado, Nebraska, Wyoming, and Montana. Another payment of about \$1,500,000 to be made December 15 will bring the total for the year to about \$19,533,000, on the basis of the initial minimum guarantee for 3,511,000 tons of beets harvested in the great western territory."

Taxation

An editorial in The Farm Journal for December says: "The events of the last two years have made it perfectly clear that some thorough-going reform must be made in the system of local and State taxation. Such a necessity was plainly in sight in 1929, when this magazine first called attention to the breakdown in farm taxation methods. It is even plainer now, when the cash income of agriculture has been reduced by the price troubles of some of the great staple crops. It is unnecessary to dwell on this tax crisis; every county is acutely aware that tax collections are hard to make, and that forfeited homes and farms are no solution of the problem. There are, in all, but three avenues of escape. Agriculture might return to the level of prosperity known in 1918 and 1919. Or the expense of local government might be greatly reduced. Or the local property tax might be replaced by other forms of taxation, more easily collected and more uniform over the population.....A reform in taxation methods still seems the quickest and most promising line of attack. Several of the agricultural States are moving in that direction-- naturally against the bitter opposition of the present non-taxpayers. The State income tax is commonly proposed, and as generally resisted, partly because its yield in money would fluctuate so widely with the changes in conditions. In this year, for example, the income tax in most States would be distressingly unproductive. We may be mistaken, but it appears to us that events are turning us steadily and irresistibly toward some form of the general sales tax for State and local governments. The universal use and success of the gasoline tax, a true sales tax, has been an outstanding object-lesson in this field."

Section 3

Department of
Agriculture

"A Survey of Agricultural Missions" of the Information Service of the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America says: "One hundred twenty missionaries replied to a question regarding the agencies in Europe and America which had exercised greatest influence in the promotion of agricultural work. It would appear that the greatest help has been received from the United States Department of Agriculture, and that the experiences of the Smith-Hughes vocational schools and of the State agricultural colleges, particularly the Extension Service, have also been very instructive. The two well-known Negro institutions, Hampton and Tuskegee, received frequent mention, being especially influential in India and Africa. The Danish folk schools are mentioned particularly by workers in Japan and Korea....."

Section 4
MARKET QUOTATIONSFarm
Products

Nov. 30.—Livestock prices at Chicago: Slaughter cattle, calves, and vealers: steers (1100-1500 lbs.): good and choice \$7.75-12.75; cows, good and choice \$3.75-5; heifers (550-850 lbs.): good and choice \$6.25-9.75; vealers, good and choice \$5.50-7.50; feeder and stocker cattle: steers, good and choice \$3.50-7. Heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.): good and choice \$4.20-4.40; light lights (140-160 lbs.): good and choice \$4.25-4.40; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.): good and choice \$3.75-4.25. (Soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations.) Slaughter sheep and lambs: lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$5.25-6.25; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$4-5.

Grain prices: No. 1 dark norther spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis 72-1/8-74-1/8¢; No. 2 red winter, Chicago 55 1/2¢; St. Louis 56-5/8-58-3/8¢; Kansas City 55 3/4¢; No. 2 hard winter Kansas City 48 3/4-50 3/4¢; No. 3 mixed corn, Chicago 38 1/2¢-39 3/4¢(new); Minneapolis 43-44¢; Kansas City 43 1/2-44 1/2¢; No. 3 yellow, Chicago 37 1/4-40¢ (new); Minneapolis 49-50¢; St. Louis 39-39 1/2¢; Kansas City 44 1/2-46¢; No. 3 white oats, Chicago 23 1/4-25 3/4¢; Minneapolis 26 3/4-27 3/4¢; St. Louis 27¢; Kansas City 28-30¢.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in the ten designated markets advanced 2 points to 5.72¢ per lb. On the corresponding day one year ago the price stood at 9.65¢. December future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 1 point to 6.07¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 2 points to 6.01¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 30 1/2¢; 91 score, 30¢; 90 score, 28 1/2¢.

Wholesale prices of No. 1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 13 1/2-15¢; Single Daisies, 14 1/4-14 3/4¢; Young Americas, 14 1/2-15¢. (Prepared by Bureau of Agricultural Economics.)

DAILY DIGEST

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VOL. XLIII, NO. 53

Section 1

December 2, 1931

HOME OWNERSHIP CONFERENCE A program aimed at promoting home-ownership in the United States and reviving the building industry will be sought by 2,000 or more delegates to the President's conference on home-building and home-ownership, which will begin a four-day meeting at Washington today. (Press, Dec. 2.)

GAME CONFERENCE The New York Times today reports: "A serious shortage in the wild duck supply in this country and Canada has brought the need for an immediate restoration program to the forefront of discussions among leading game officials and sportsmen at the American Game Conference, and they are expected to agree on a definite plan for financing this work at the concluding session today at New York. Paul G. Redington, Chief of the United States Biological Survey, in presenting the waterfowl problem to more than 400 game experts at the conference yesterday, said there was 'incontrovertible evidence' to show a progressive decrease in the duck population, and warned that drastic action must be taken to save the fowl and to increase the supply....Mr. Redington urged that all conservation and sportsmen's organizations agree on a unified program to solve the problem.

"C. A. Hayden of Calgary, Alberta, president of the Canadian Fish and Game Protective Association, A. E. Etter, game commissioner of Saskatchewan, Canada, and officials of Minnesota, North Dakota, and Michigan, agreed with Mr. Redington's findings....."

TOBACCO PROBLEMS IN KENTUCKY An Owensboro, Ky., dispatch today says: "Incensed because of low prices offered them, about 3,000 farmers attending the opening tobacco sale of the season at Owensboro yesterday broke up the sale after hurling apples at the auctioneers. They then unanimously adopted a resolution not to raise any tobacco next year. About 78,000 pounds of dark leaf tobacco had been sold at two warehouses for an average of \$4.61 per 100, compared with an average of \$8.47 on the opening day last year, when close to 500,000 pounds were sold....."

NEW YORK CITY MILK The press today says: "Reductions in bottled milk prices in New York City took on the aspect of a price war yesterday when the Sheffield Farms Company, Inc., announced a reduction of two cents a quart in the retail home delivery price of both grade A and grade B milk in the city and vicinity. This was in reply to the action of the Dairymen's League and Borden's Farm Products Company on Monday in reducing prices on bottled milk to stores, but both cuts, it was understood, were made to meet independent competition....."

NEBRASKA FARMER BECOMES BI-MONTHLY The Nebraska Farmer announces that with its current number it ceases its weekly issue and will be published bi-monthly beginning with the December 12 number.

Section 2

Business The Business Week for December 2 says: "Some slackening of the
Conditions rate of bank credit contraction, slowing up of currency expansion and
bank suspensions, strengthening of the dollar and mark exchanges, accelerated action on German reparations and debt problems by the creditor powers may be counted as condiments for the rather thin Thanksgiving turkey offered in this week's news.....All these things offer some promise that the period of acute financial disturbance which has complicated the depression will not be unduly prolonged and may be definitely past by spring. The postponement of railroad wage adjustments, pressure of tax selling and poor corporation earnings reports have provided an unpalatable giblet sauce for the security markets, but they are standing their disappointments so far fairly well, and commodity markets continue steady despite the dampening of their earlier inflationary enthusiasm. Meanwhile most measures of industrial and trade activity indicate nothing more than stabilization at prevailing low levels as business prepares to dig in for the winter and watch the coming congressional carnival of political winter sports in Washington. Steel and motors appear most hopeful of keeping some of the home fires burning in anticipation of spring improvement, and there is no doubt that sentimental expectation of a fresh start after the turn of the year has strengthened in many lines of business. There is nothing demonstrably unreasonable in this, despite the obvious obstacles to be overcome, or the apparently unanswerable economic oracles who can always prove by precedent that what has happened was inevitable and what will happen is impossible."

Cotton An editorial in Farm and Ranch for November 28 says: "It has
Acreage frequently been suggested by readers of Farm and Ranch that instead of
Reduction penalizing the producer by arbitrarily reducing his acreage, every farmer should be permitted to produce on as large an acreage as he desires, but put the penalty on the product. W. W. Fitzwater, of Bonham, Texas, in a recent communication to Farm and Ranch, also suggests something along this line. Mr. Fitzwater said: 'The question primarily involved in an attempt to solve the cotton production problem is not that we have too many acres of cotton, but that we have too many bales.' Mr. Fitzwater is of the opinion that the acreage reduction law will not materially reduce production, but that it will result in increased acreage in some areas of the Cotton Belt and stimulate increased acre production in other sections. Many men who have planted but little cotton or none at all will become cotton farmers if prices advance, and others will fertilize and cultivate intensely such lands as the law allows them for cotton and produce more bales per given acreage, avers Mr. Fitzwater, and that seems to be the opinion of others who have written Farm and Ranch. As a method to curb overproduction, Mr. Fitzwater suggests that the product be penalized on a graduated plan after twenty bales have been produced. It is Mr. Fitzwater's opinion that should a promising season increase acre production, farmers will only pick the best, thus we would have better cotton and a better price which in turn would increase consumption. On general principles, Farm and Ranch opposes any law which either restricts acreage or taxes production of agricultural commodities. We grant, however, that conditions sometimes arise which may justify restrictive measures of some kind. Generally, economic laws force people to do the right thing in the end, although we often wait until we are pretty badly hurt before we pay much attention to them. Farm and Ranch hopes the new farm program will

prove so successful and satisfactory that we will not need further legislation to control production."

Farm
Tenancy

An editorial in Pennsylvania Farmer for November 28 says: "An insurance company has had to take over many farms located in several States. Not all its loans were made wisely. Some of the farms are not good and never can be worth much, but most of them are good. Those who are studying the problem have come to a few conclusions, which they state, and ask us for further suggestions. One of their conclusions is to let the bad bargains go and waste no more time or money on them. Another is to leave no man on the farm where he has failed to meet his obligations. If he wants and deserves another chance he is to have it on another farm. It is thought that with a fresh start on a new place he may do better than where he failed. Is this conclusion sound? The farms are now rented on a one-year basis. Our main suggestion was to give worthy tenants a long lease with an option to buy at an attractive price at the end of the lease. The company does not want the farms but wants to get rid of them without loss, and this appears to us the best way to work out of them and the best way for the tenant also. Can anybody make a better suggestion?"

German
Finances

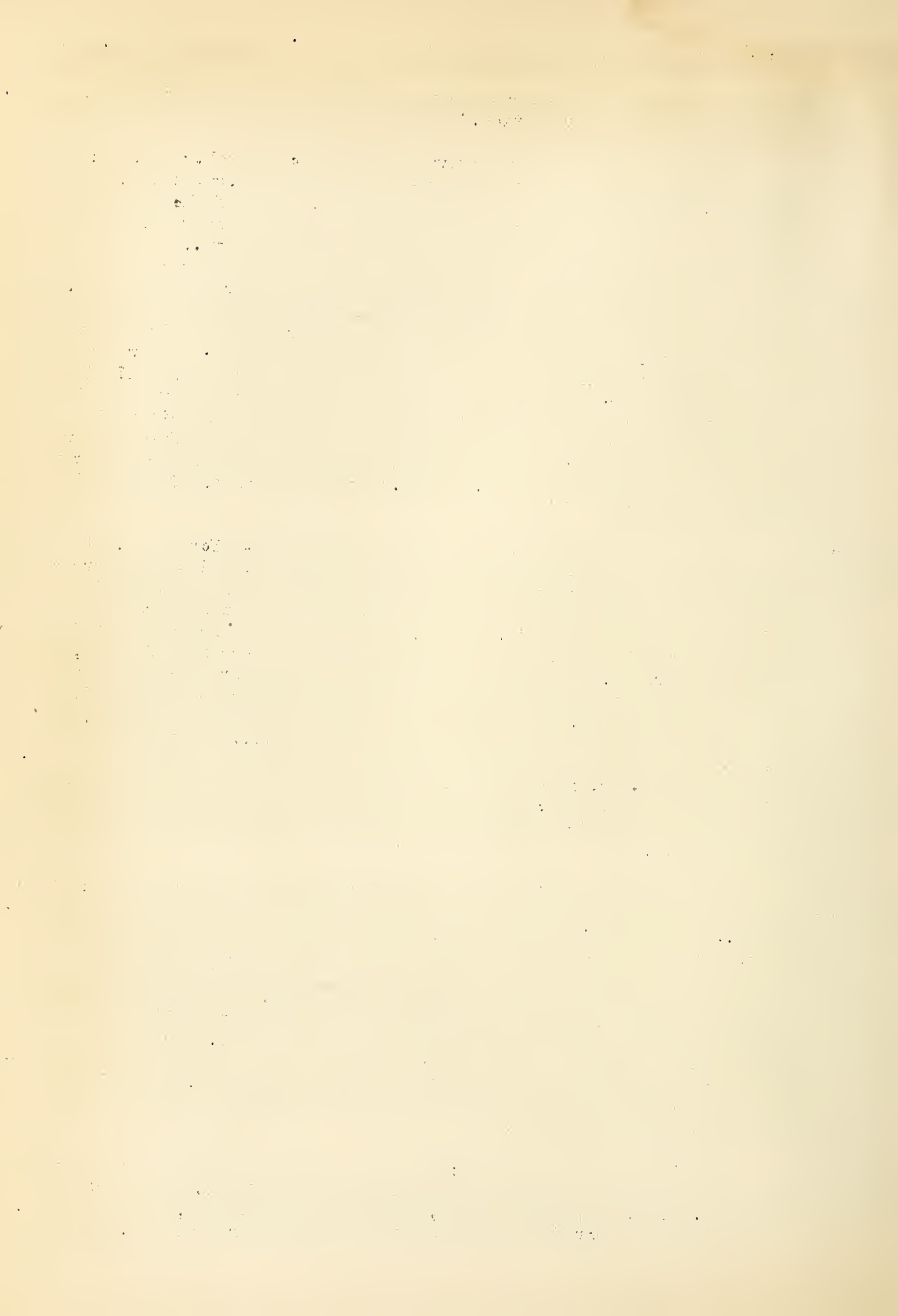
An Associated Press dispatch today from New York says: "The German situation is gradually reaching its climax, and two conferences to be held in the near future will to a considerable extent determine the economic and political fate of Germany. This view was expressed in an interview yesterday by Dr. John T. Madden, dean of the School of Commerce, Accounts and Finance, and Dr. Marcus Nadler, professor of finance, at New York University. They explained that at present Germany's total amount of short-term debts may be conservatively estimated at between \$2,200,000,000 and \$2,500,000,000. This is substantially above the \$1,900,000,000 estimate in the report of the Higgin committee..... Doctor Madden and Doctor Nadler are well known in the financial world as director and assistant director, respectively, of the Institute of International Finance. They emphasized, however, that in discussing the German situation they were speaking strictly as individuals, and not as representatives of the institute....."

Milk
Markets

An editorial in The Michigan Farmer for November 28 says: "The farmers of Michigan are not alone in having trouble with their milk markets. In the Buffalo area of New York State the price of milk was cut from twelve to seven cents in a single week. It is alleged that this movement was started to break the farmers' organization and to bring conditions back to what they were twenty years ago. Apparently those starting the cut expect dealers in other cities to follow until the entire area served by the farmers' organization is affected. Apparently also the farmers are taking up their belts with the purpose in mind of fighting for what they sincerely believe to be their rights. It will be interesting to Michigan milk producers to see how the Dairymen's League handles such a situation."

Radios
and Popu-
lation

The United Press says: "Radio sets instead of children are increasing in the United States, the Department of Commerce reported yesterday. In April, 1930, 29,980,146 families had 12,078,345 radio sets. The population per family in 1930 was 4.1 as compared with 4.3 in 1920



and 4.5 in 1910. The average population per family was largest in North Carolina, with 4.9. The smallest population per family was 3.5 in California and Nevada. New York, Pennsylvania and Illinois each reported more than a million families having radio sets. New Jersey led, with 63.3 per cent, and New York was second, with 57.8 per cent. Only 5.4 per cent of the families in Mississippi and 7.6 per cent of the families in South Carolina had radio sets."

Rat
Congress
at Paris

The Journal of The American Medical Association for November 28 says: "Of the many congresses held in Paris the past season, one of the most peculiar was the Congress on Rats, which convened at the Institut Pasteur in Paris. The initiative in its organization was taken by Prof. Gabriel Petit of the Ecole veterinaire d'Alfort, and it was held under the chairmanship of Doctor Marchoux. Many foreign scientists participated; for with the question of rats was associated naturally the question of the plague. Several governors of colonies were present; likewise Mr. Jitta, president of the superior council of the Netherlands, and Dr. Ricardo Jorge, delegate from Portugal.....In his inaugural address, Prof. Gabriel Petit stated that, even before the war, the annual damage caused by rats to agricultural products was estimated at a billion dollars for the United States, \$40,000,000 for France, 15,000,000 pounds for England, \$50,000,000 for Germany, and similar vast amounts for other countries. Recent statistics raise to a billion gold francs (nearly \$200,000,000) the losses caused to the national wealth by the hordes of rodents that infest French territory. That is why this year especially, in view of the International Colonial Exposition, the second international conference and the Congres colonial du rat et de la peste have assumed particular importance.....Rats are great destroyers of grain, being more destructive than all the cryptogamic diseases combined.....But deratization is more difficult on land, especially in the large grain fields. Several new methods were explained during the course of the congress, at which many communications were presented by Mr. Loir, Lieutenant General Manera of Rome, Professor Petit, Mr. Dujardin-Reaumetz, Hauduroy and Neveu (vaccination of animals against the plague), and Mr. Gobert. Mr. Loir succeeded in creating, by process of selection, a breed of large cats excellent as rat hunters, which, at Havre more particularly, have demonstrated their capacity for rat destruction.....The conventionists took a trip to Havre to inspect Doctor Loir's breeding place for rat-catching cats."

Section 3
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm
Products

Dec. 1.--Livestock prices at Chicago: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers: steers (1100-1500 lbs.); good and choice \$7.75-12.75; cows, good and choice \$3.75-5; heifers (550-850 lbs.); good and choice \$6.25-9.75; vealers, good and choice \$5.50-7.50; feeder and stocker cattle: steers, good and choice \$3.50-7. Heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.); good and choice \$4.20-4.35; light lights (140-160 lbs.); good and choice \$4.15-4.35; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.); good and choice \$3.75-4.15. (Soft or cily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations.) Slaughter sheep and lambs: lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$5.25-6.35; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$4-5.

Grain prices: No. 1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis 72-7/8-74-7/8¢; No. 2 red winter, St. Louis 56-59-3/8¢ (Nom); Kansas City 52-57 1/2¢ (Nom); No. 2 hard winter, Kansas City 49 3/4-52¢; No. 3 mixed corn, Chicago 40 1/2¢; Minneapolis 43-44¢; Kansas City 44 1/2-45 1/2¢; No. 3 yellow, Chicago 41¢; Minneapolis 49-50¢; St. Louis 39-40¢; Kansas City 45-46 1/2¢; No. 3 white oats, Chicago 24 1/4-25¢; Minneapolis 26 3/4-27 3/4¢; St. Louis 27¢; Kansas City 26 1/4¢.

Maine sacked Green Mountain potatoes mostly 85¢-\$1.25 in eastern jobbing markets; 50¢ f.o.b. Arcostock County points. Eastern sacked Round Whites 80¢-\$1.15 in consuming centers; 70-78¢ f.c.b. western New York. Wisconsin sacked stock 80-90¢ in Chicago carlot market; mostly 60¢ around Waupaca, Wis. New York and midwestern yellow onions jobbing at 85¢-\$1.75 per 50-lb. sack in city markets; \$1.15-1.25 f.o.b. western New York points and \$1.25-1.40 f.o.b. southwestern Michigan loading stations. New York Danish-type cabbage \$18-27 bulk per ton in consuming centers; \$14-15 f.o.b. Rochester district. Northern Danish-type \$1.75 bulk per cwt. in Kansas City and \$21-25 per ton in St. Louis; \$17 f.o.b. Racine, Wis. Virginia Jersey-type sweetpotatoes 90¢-\$1.75 per barrel in eastern jobbing centers; Tennessee Nancy Halls 85¢-\$1.05 per bushel hamper in the Middle West. Best grade New York Rhode Island Greening apples jobbing at \$1.25-1.37 1/2 per bushel in New York City, with McIntosh at \$1.50-2 and Baldwins 90¢ in that market; f.o.b. sales of Baldwins at 85¢ per bushel tub, f.o.b. western New York points, and cold-storage Greenings weaker at \$1.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in the ten designated markets declined 8 points to 5.64¢ per lb. On the corresponding day one year ago the price stood at 9.82¢. December future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 6 points to 6.01¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange advanced 6 points to 6.07¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 30 1/2¢; 91 score, 30¢; 90 score, 28¢.

Wholesale prices of No. 1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 13 1/2-15 1/2¢; Single Daisies, 14-14 1/2¢; Young Americas, 14 1/4-14 3/4¢. (Prepared by Bureau of Agricultural Economics.)

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

Vol. XLIII, No. 54

Section 1

December 3, 1931.

THE PRESIDENT URGES HOME BUILDING

The promotion of home ownership through a reduction in cash requirements was suggested by President Hoover last night in an address at Washington which opened the President's conference on home building and home ownership, according to the press today. The

President emphasized the financial factor involved in home ownership as more important than any other phase, although he gave regard to the problems of community planning and like activities. He pointed out that investors can obtain "abundant and mobile finance for 50 per cent of the cost of a home through a first mortgage."

TARIFF CHANGES

President Hoover yesterday made seven changes in the tariff structure, raising two duties and lowering five, according to the press today. The report says: "The levy on McKay sewed shoes was increased from 20 to 30 per cent ad valorem and that on fresh green peas was raised from 3 to 3.9 cents a pound. The decreases were: Crude feldspar, from \$1 to 50 cents per ton; turned shoes, 20 to 10 per cent ad valorem; fresh green peppers, 3 to 2.5 cents a pound; and egg plants, 3 to 1½ cents per pound. The duty on window glass was reduced by 25 per cent. Changes were made under the flexible provisions of the Smoot-Hawley tariff law after they had been recommended by the Tariff Commission.."

FREIGHT RATES

Increases provided in eleven sections of the eastern and western class freight rate schedules yesterday were suspended for seven months by the Interstate Commerce Commission. They would have become effective last night at midnight. The commission acted as a result of serious objection to several phases of the new rates, which included some decreases. Among the suspensions was that of increased rates on potatoes from western trunk line territory to Illinois. Nebraska potato growers objected seriously to the increased rates. Rates on cotton from Arkansas, Louisiana, and Texas to the East and New England by way of New Orleans also were held up. (Press, Dec.3.)

PRIZE STEER

A Chicago dispatch today says: "An eastern steer overthrew the reign of the West yesterday and ruled as grand champion of the International Livestock Show. This was 'Briar Cliff Thickset,' a yearling Aberdeen angus from Dutchess County, N. Y. A shorthorn calf, 'Illini Major' from the University of Illinois herd, was adjudged reserve champion. The new czar of cattle is owned by Oakleigh Thorne, retired New York capitalist, and was bred at Thorne's Briar Cliff farms at Pine Plains, but 'Briar Cliff's' reign is to be short-lived for on Thursday the steer goes on the auction block."

INDIA'S STATUS

A London dispatch says: "Prime Minister MacDonald yesterday made a declaration of British Government policy which brought the dream of a United States of India a little nearer and left the door open for settling disagreements which still are unsolved. On the broad issues Mr. MacDonald pledged his Conservative Government to support the late Labor Government's policy of a Federal India embracing the Princes' States and the British Indian Provinces alike....."

Section 2

British Forestation
Alma Chesnut writes of "Britain's Rising Army of Trees" in American Forests for December. She says: "The World War taught Great Britain the unforgettable lesson that forests as well as soldiers and guns are needed for purposes of national defense. The government today is mobilizing a standing army of trees! Isolated by submarine warfare from her foreign timber supply-- normally she imports ninety-five per cent of the wood she uses-- Great Britain sacrificed 400,000 acres of woodland during the war years to fill her barest needs. The shock and scare of this experience spurred her to a peacetime program of forestation that was both bold and impressive in its magnitude. Before 1914 Great Britain had no forestry commission, no state forests and no forest policy. Today the mother country is moving resolutely toward the goal of a home reserve of standing timber 'sufficient to meet the essential requirements of the nation over a limited period of three years in time of war or other national emergency.'.....From the Kyle of Tonge in the northernmost tip of Scotland to Lands End and the Straits of Dover plantation after plantation has sprung up until today the islands are literally dotted with embryo forests. Eighteen units at the end of 1920, fifty-eight by 1924, 137 by September, 1929, a total of 163,000 acres actually planted out by September, 1930. Thus Britain is building her forests. She is building them upon the sand heaths of Dorset, Nottingham and Fife, upon the chalk downs in the south of England, upon hill grazing land in the west and south and the higher heather moors and rocky deer forests of Scotland. New forests are rising over devastated woodland and unproductive coppice. Tracts of 1,000 acres or more are preferred but occasionally smaller units, conveniently located, are purchased. New acquisitions increase their size and often the units run together as intervening lands are bought or leased. Of the 163,000 acres afforested, over ninety-five per cent were planted to conifers. Softwoods grow faster and their timber is in greater demand. The commissioners are using them to restore the woodlands depleted by the war, but, as opportunity presents itself, are also acquiring land suitable for the more exacting broadleaves and experimenting to improve methods of raising them. While transplants are most often used in afforestation work, in many cases both conifers, such as maritime pine, and hardwoods, such as oak, have been sown direct with excellent results....."

Business Conditions
Floyd W. Parsons, writing in National Grocers Bulletin, says: ".....Business is now entering a time when instead of picking gold nuggets off the ground the gold will have to be mined. Corporations that win profits will have to work for them. Physics, chemistry, psychology, physiology and biology will be required to join hands in order that conditions may be improved and efficiently increased. The trained psychologist will have a place in all large organizations. The fellow who does the buying will be a purchasing engineer, not a purchasing agent. It will be less serious for him to make a mistake in the matter of price than of quality, for inferior quality may mean failure of development, sacrifice of life and loss of property.....Two years ago we faced a crisis filled with hidden dangers. Today the lurking evils are exposed-- the worst is known. Those who see daylight ahead are not only supported by generations of precedent, but by most of the available facts."

Indian
Sugar
Tariff

An editorial in Facts About Sugar for December says: "India has replaced Russia, for the time being at least, as the favorite bugaboo of the pessimist in the international sugar market. The latest increase in the Indian import duty, amounting to 1.8125 rupees per cwt., and making the duty equivalent to about 2.30 cents per pound, is hailed not only as sounding the death knell of Java's chances for further trade with the country which has been in recent years the largest market for her sugar, but also as meaning that Indian sugar will shortly invade the other markets of the Far East and drive out all other competitors. Java thereupon will be forced to dump her sugar in Europe, to the demoralization of that market, the international agreement will be smashed and chaos will reign throughout the sugar world.....It is not to be gainsaid, of course, that India is capable of producing all the sugar required by her population, or even an excess above that amount, and it is quite in keeping with past experience that the higher tariff, by adding to the cost of placing foreign sugar on the Indian market, will result in an expansion of the domestic output of the kinds of sugar formerly imported. But changes of this sort always come about gradually and those who know British India realize that it is not a country in which revolutionary economic or industrial changes are likely to take place overnight. The most immediate effect of the high tariff now in force is likely to be a lowering of the rate of sugar consumption in India on account of the increased cost of the commodity."

Livestock
Records

An editorial in Pennsylvania Farmer for November 28 says: "E. W. Sheets, Chief of the Animal Husbandry Division of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, believes the time has come when we should have a national record of livestock performance, a measure of excellence which would say with authority just how good a hog, a horse, a steer or a sheep is, as we measure the merits of a dairy cow by scales and test under official supervision. The advantages of such a record are plain. It would furnish the breeder with a working chart by which he might plan a constructive breeding program. It would provide a basis on which to compute value. And it would encourage efficient production and thereby promote profit. The reason why something of the sort has never come into practice is that the measures which could be applied to livestock are too complicated. We may have enough information on which to compute the standing of a beef animal, for instance, but it is so involved that only an experiment station or an exceptional breeder could bother with it. If some simple measure, like the scales and Babcock test, could be devised, that would turn out the answer in a few figures, the record for performance idea for livestock would be making headway. Lack of such measure is its present serious drawback; but with the increased attention such measures are getting it may be that a standard to measure performance of all farm animals may be available some day. It would bolster opinion with facts, and for that reason is to be desired, but without present knowledge and different market preferences it is not yet practicable."

Milk Lab-
eratory

An editorial in The Michigan Farmer for November 28 says: "In the Pure Milk Association of Chicago a laboratory is maintained to test the quality of the milk delivered. Samples of milk are placed on slides by the field men at the delivery points in the country. These are sent to the laboratory, strained, examined, and photographed by experienced bacteriologists. Then by studying these slides it is possible to detect

whether faulty milk is due to the condition of the cows, the utensils, or the methods of handling the milk. With this information it is possible to run down any trouble and keep a high quality of milk on the market-- the one thing that does most to improve consumption of all farm products."

Section 3

Department of
Agriculture

T. Swann Harding, writing on "A Modern Educational Plant" in The Scientific Monthly for December, says: "It so happens that the United States Department of Agriculture is nothing more nor less than a strictly modern educational plant which has efficiently utilized the latest model mechanisms for educational purposes. It must be viewed as an educational institution. To view it through the eyes of competitive business existing in a profit economy is altogether wrong. Note that I do not say business is wrong. Business has to be what it has to be in this age..... The Department of Agriculture maintains scientific laboratories wherein fundamental research is performed. But it does not intend that this new knowledge, actually created by its experts and therefore its most valuable product, shall be sealed away on shelves from the light of day. Even if it wished to do so the department would not dare hoard the knowledge it develops. If it could not enlist the cooperation of the press and the radio industry in the task of acquainting the public with the results of its activities, other means, which would be far more expensive, would have to be devised.....Hence the Department of Agriculture does not hoard its knowledge. It effects the distribution of its product, if I must use business terms to gain the confidence of business men. It effects this distribution, I venture to say, more efficiently than industry today effects the distribution of its products, for every economist will tell you that our system of distribution is not what it should be. The Department of Agriculture accomplishes the distribution of its product, knowledge, by strictly modern means.....So far as my knowledge extends I believe there is no educational institution in America today which utilizes modern means for the diffusion of knowledge so effectively as does the Department of Agriculture. There is no diversity or diffusion of interest here.....The point really at issue is whether the citizen's contributions to his government in the form of taxes should be used for socially beneficial ends or not.....Today in the Department of Agriculture we have a very modern educational plant thoroughly equipped to discover new knowledge and to diffuse it. Is such a plant socially justifiable? If its research activities are justifiable has it any right to diffuse, by the best means at hand, the knowledge it has discovered? Is it likely that any enlightened person would answer these two questions in the negative?"

Farm
ProductsSection 4
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Dec. 2.—Livestock prices at Chicago: Slaughter cattle, calves, and vealers: steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$7.50-12.75; cows, good and choice \$3.50-5; heifers (550-850 lbs.), good and choice \$6.25-9.50; vealers, good and choice \$5-6.50; feeder and stocker cattle: steers, good and choice \$3.50-6.75. Heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.), good and choice \$4.20-4.40; light lights (140-160 lbs.), good and choice \$4.20-4.40; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.), good and choice \$3.75-4.15. (Soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations.) Slaughter sheep and lambs: lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$5.25-6.25; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$4-5.

Grain prices: No. 1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis 71-7/8-73-7/8¢; No. 2 red winter, St. Louis 58-59¢; Kansas City 54½-58¢; No. 2 hard winter, Kansas City 52-53¢; No. 3 mixed corn, Chicago 39¼-40¢ (New); Minneapolis 41-42¢; Kansas City 43-44¢; No. 3 yellow, Chicago 39-40¢ (New); Minneapolis 47-48¢; St. Louis 38½-39½¢; Kansas City 44-45¢; No. 3 white oats, Chicago 25½-26¢; Minneapolis 26½-27½¢; Kansas City 26-31¢.

Maine sacked Green Mountain potatoes \$0.85-1.10 per 100 lbs. in eastern cities; 47½-50¢ f.o.b. Presque Isle. Eastern sacked Round Whites 90¢-\$1 in city markets; 65-75¢ f.o.b. Rochester. Wisconsin sacked stock 80-95¢ carlot sales in Chicago; mostly 60¢ f.o.b. Waupaca. New York and Midwestern sacked yellow onions \$1.25-1.75 per 50-lbs. in consuming centers; \$1.25-1.50 f.o.b. Rochester. Virginia East Shore Jersey type sweetpotatoes 90¢-\$2 per stave barrel in the East. Tennessee Nancy Halls 85-95¢ per bushel hamper in midwestern cities. New York Danish type cabbage \$20-27 bulk per ton in terminal markets; \$14-15 f.o.b. Rochester. Northern Danish type \$23-25 in St. Louis; \$16-17 f.o.b. Racine. New York McIntosh apples, No. 1, 2½ inches up, \$1.75-2; Rhode Island Greenings \$1.25 per bushel basket in New York City; Baldwins 80-85¢ f.o.b. Rochester. Virginia Staymans 90¢-\$1.12½ in New York City.

Average price of Middling Spot cotton in the ten designated markets advanced 4 points to 5.68¢ per lb. On the corresponding day one year ago the price stood at 9.62¢. December future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 3 points to 5.99¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 5 points to 5.96¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 30½¢; 91 score, 30¢; 90 score, 28¢.

Wholesale prices of No. 1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 13½-15½¢; Single Daisies, 14-14½¢; Young Americas, 14¼-14¾¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XLIII, No. 55

Section 1

December 4, 1931.

NEW YORK BANK MERGER

The board of directors of the Manufacturers Trust Co. and of the Chatham Phenix National Bank & Trust Co. yesterday voted to merge the two institutions, according to the press today. The new bank will have combined resources of \$550,000,000 and deposits in excess of \$400,000,000. Announcement of the merger was made by Harvey D. Gibson, president of the Manufacturers Trust, New York.

NEW YORK MILK CUT

A New York dispatch today says: "As a result of the two-cent-a-quart reduction in the price of bottled delivered milk announced this week by the large distributors in the metropolitan area, dairy farmers of the New York milkshed will lose \$2,000,000 a month, according to Fred H. Sexauer, president of the Dairymen's League Cooperative Association. 'This price break is a calamity to the dairy industry,' Mr. Sexauer said yesterday. 'It will accentuate the general depression by adding to the hordes of unemployed and bring acute financial misery into the lives of additional thousands of people....'"

TOBACCO EMBARGO URGED

An effort to obtain a reversal of Secretary Mellon's recent order authorizing the importation of Sumatra cigar wrapper tobacco was made yesterday by a group of Connecticut Valley, Florida and Georgia tobacco growers who appeared before Assistant Secretary Lowman, according to the press today. The report says: "The delegation obtained additional time to file briefs. The tariff act of 1930, barred after January 1, 1932, the products of forced and indentured labor, provided that the domestic production of similar products met the demand. The Treasury decided that the domestic production of Sumatra tobacco was insufficient for the cigar industry."

RUSSIAN NEW FIVE-YEAR PLAN

Walter Duranty, Moscow representative of the New York Times, today reports that Joseph Stalin, as Secretary General of the Central Committee of the Communist party, issued a statement last night announcing that a party conference would be held January 30 to discuss the preliminary program for the second Five-Year Plan, to begin January 1, 1933.

INDIA'S STATUS

A London dispatch today states that the cabinet of Prime Minister J. Ramsay MacDonald won an overwhelming victory in the House of Commons last night on its policy for eventual establishment of a responsible federal government in India.

GERMAN FOOD REGULATION

A Berlin dispatch states that German government authorities predicted yesterday that a price commissioner having almost dictatorial powers over food costs will shortly be appointed.

Section 2

Dairy
Marketing
Organiza-
tion

C. B. Denman, a member of the Federal Farm Board, said in an address before a meeting of the Sanitary Milk Producers Association of St. Louis this morning: "Producers of dairy products now have active marketing organizations in all the large cities of the Central West and East. Producers supplying the St. Louis market have been among the last to organize. The organization work now under way in St. Louis will place the producers in a position to sell their milk on the same basis as do milk producers in other large cities. The program of the Sanitary Milk Producers Association is sound and merits the support of all interests in the St. Louis market. I would like to emphasize that the program of this cooperative association, as is the practice of cooperative milk bargaining associations in other markets, aids the entire dairy industry of the milk shed...."

German-
Egyptian
Cotton
Deal

A Bremen dispatch says: "Plans to have the Reich guarantee the payment for 45,000 bales of Egyptian cotton, for which negotiations have been in progress at Bremen, have encountered strong opposition from local brokers who have instructed their representatives at Cairo to prevail on the government there to break off official negotiations. The German textile industry annually requires about 90,000 bales of the Egyptian product. The attempts to reach an agreement with the Egyptian Legation in Berlin having failed, the intervention of the Reich is sought in certain private quarters, which has provoked a protest from most brokerage firms...."

Grass into
Cloth

The New York Times today says: "A method of successfully purifying ramie, the oldest and strongest vegetable fiber known, has at last been found and, according to indications, the new process is likely to effect a revolution in the textile and affiliated industries, it was learned yesterday....A process has been perfected, without the use of sulphuric acid, which successfully removes the gum and other impurities, and the resulting fiber and yarn appear to have met every test by noted chemical experts, by textile and fabric makers...The process has been perfected by the Universal Fiber Corporation, New York, under the direction of Dr. Samuel S. Eveland, chemist, electrical engineer and inventor, who has made research his hobby for the last twenty-five years...."

Indian
Cotton

An editorial in The Wall Street Journal for December 3 says: "Production of Indian cotton for the current season is estimated by the Garside service at 5,400,000 running Indian bales, compared with 5,731,000 a year ago and 6,222,000 two years ago. There is a considerable decrease in the carryover also, which brings the total supply to 8,400,000 bales for this season against 9,111,000 a year ago and 9,944,000 two years ago....These figures do not represent the entire Indian crop, but cover that part that is available for mill and export use. Consumption in Indian mills for the first four months of the season approximates that of the 1929-30 season which was unusually large. The inference is that price will not offer special inducements to consumers to use more Indian cotton than American unless there should be some more artificial price-fixing here. So long as prices are permitted to tell the truth in regard to supply and demand, present conditions favor an increase in consumption of American cotton over that of the pas

year. Forwardings of American cotton to mills of the European continent are not quite as large as a year ago, but in the past two weeks, according to the Garside service, there has been some improvement. English mills, however, are taking more than a year ago. The international situation must always be taken into consideration in connection with cotton consumption by English mills. Both China and India are looked upon as important markets for finished goods and the situation in those countries makes the outlook for sales of goods somewhat uncertain...."

Morgenthau on New York Forests Henry Morgenthau, jr., New York State Conservation Commissioner, speaking December 2 before the American Game Conference at New York, revealed that he did not regard the contemplated 1,000,000-acre program as the final step in reforestation efforts by the State, according to the press of December 3. "I am rather confident," he said, "that when this program is near completion its effects will be so plainly beneficial, and the plan itself revealed as so sound, that the people of the State will wish to extend it so as to absorb all the land in the State primarily suited for growing trees and for recreation uses." Mr. Morgenthau explained the plan of his department by which land to be reforested under the enlarged reforestation program are to be converted into public hunting and fishing grounds, a use which he said would not at all conflict with the growth of the young trees. "This accession of the million acres to our open hunting and fishing areas," he said, "will more than compensate, I believe, for the yearly increase in the area posted against hunting and fishing by farmers and estate owners."

Motor Transport An editorial in The Progressive Farmer and Southern Ruralist for December 1-14 says: "In all history no single means of commercial transportation has had such spectacular growth as we have witnessed in the movement of farm products by motor truck during recent years. At present, motor trucks are handling approximately one-sixth of the total tonnage of fresh fruits and vegetables transported twenty miles or more to market. They, moreover, are handling an enormous volume of hogs, poultry, dairy products, cotton, timber, and grain. And where the average trip of the motor truck a few years ago was a matter of just a few miles, trips have increased to where they now are regularly covering distances as great as four to six hundred miles. Millions of bales of cotton at the moment are being picked up in the very heart of the Cotton Belt and hauled to such centers as Galveston, New Orleans, and other ports along the Gulf and South Atlantic coast. Cotton seed in increasing tonnage is being delivered by truck direct to the oil mills. Countless thousands of truckloads of fruits and vegetables move from the South Atlantic and Gulf States to markets throughout the mid-continent area, and even to those in the East. A few days ago we witnessed a number of double-deck trucks discharging their loads of hogs at one of our southern packing plants. These hogs were picked up at the feedlot and delivered direct....Up to the first of November, 306,000 pounds of live poultry had been delivered by truck to the New York market from Virginia, West Virginia, and North Carolina. And so it is that we are witnessing a veritable revolution in transportation and marketing. Interior points that used to be important market centers for farm and

timber products are fading out of the picture. On the other hand, big terminal processing institutions remote from the farm are suffering a similar fate because it is more economical for the farmer to haul his products to similar plants closer home. The effect is to decentralize certain types of industry. Cotton mills are buying direct from the farm in increasing volume. And to meet the new competition, freight rates in whole sections have undergone radical reductions. What the future will bring in further development, we, of course, can not now determine. But it is safe to say that the farm truck as a means of transporting farm products is not only here to stay but is destined to play an increasingly important role."

Radio from
Venezuela
to Berlin "Direct radio service with New York and Berlin was made available to the Venezuelan public on July 24, 1931, with the formal opening of the powerful new radio station recently constructed by a German company in the city of Maracay....The opening of the station now brings Venezuela into radio communication with Rio de Janeiro, Buenos Aires, Mexico City, Habana, and other American capitals by relays from New York and makes it possible for her citizens to speak to persons in all parts of Europe through the station in Berlin...." (El Universal, Caracas, July 24.)

South Dakota
Farming An editorial in The Daily Argus-Leader (Sioux Falls, S.Dak.) for November 23 says: "The Britton Journal directs attention to the steady, though curtailed, income flowing into many South Dakota farm communities through the sale of butter, eggs and poultry. It explains that revenue from these sources is particularly appreciated in areas where money from the crops is of negligible consequence as a result of the drought and low prices. It is desirable that this feature of farm activity be mentioned just now. Current conditions demonstrate graphically the advisability of a rural income obtained from diversified sources. In addition thereto, the products obtained from these other activities supply food for the farm families and reduce the expenditures required for this purpose."

Section 3 MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

Dec. 3.--Livestock prices at Chicago: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers, steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$7.50 to \$12.75; cows, good and choice \$3.50 to \$5; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$6 to \$9.50; vealers, good and choice \$5 to \$6.50; feeder and stocker cattle, steers, good and choice \$3.50 to \$6.75. Heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$4.10 to \$4.25; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$4 to \$4.25; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$3.50 to \$3.85 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$5.25 to \$6.25; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$4 to \$5.

Grain: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis $73\frac{1}{2}$ to $75\frac{1}{2}$; No.2 red winter, St. Louis $57\frac{3}{8}$ to $59\frac{1}{4}$ (Nom.); Kansas City $55\frac{3}{4}$; No.2 hard winter, Kansas City $52\frac{1}{4}$ to $53\frac{3}{4}$; No. 3 mixed corn, Chicago 37; to $38\frac{1}{2}$ (new); Minneapolis $40\frac{1}{2}$ to $41\frac{1}{2}$; Kansas City $40\frac{1}{4}$ to $41\frac{1}{4}$; No.3 yellow, Chicago $36\frac{1}{2}$ to $38\frac{1}{2}$ (new); Minneapolis $46\frac{1}{2}$ to $47\frac{1}{2}$; St. Louis $38\frac{1}{2}$; Kansas City $40\frac{1}{2}$ to $41\frac{1}{2}$; No.3 white oats, Chicago $24\frac{1}{4}$ to $25\frac{1}{4}$; Minneapolis $26\frac{3}{4}$ to $27\frac{3}{4}$; St. Louis $26\frac{1}{2}$ to $26\frac{3}{4}$; Kansas City $26\frac{1}{2}$ to $31\frac{1}{2}$.

Maine sacked Green Mountain potatoes ranged 85ϕ -\$1.15 per 100 pounds in eastern cities; few 45ϕ - $47\frac{1}{2}\phi$ f.o.b. Presque Isle. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites 80ϕ - 90ϕ carlot sales in Chicago with f.o.b. sales 60ϕ at Waupaca. New York and Midwestern yellow varieties of onions brought 85ϕ -\$1.75 per 50-pound sacks in consuming centers; \$1.60-\$1.75 f.o.b. Rochester. New York Danish type cabbage \$20-\$30 bulk per ton in terminal markets; \$14-\$15 f.o.b. Rochester. Northern Danish type \$25 in St. Louis; \$16-\$17 f.o.b. Racine. Virginia East Shore Jersey type sweet potatoes 90ϕ -\$1.75 per stave barrel in the East. Maryland and Delaware stock 40ϕ -\$1 per bushel hamper in city markets. Tennessee Nancy Halls 85ϕ - 90ϕ in Chicago. New York McIntosh apples, No.1, $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches up, \$1.75-\$2; Rhode Island Greenings \$1.25-\$1.37 $\frac{1}{2}$ per bushel basket in New York City; Baldwins 85ϕ f.o.b. Rochester. Virginia and West Virginia Delicious \$1.25 in New York City.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in the ten designated markets advanced 8 points to 5.76¢ per lb. On the same day one year ago the price stood at 9.66¢. December future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 6 points to 6.05¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange advanced 10 points to 6.06¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, $30\frac{1}{2}\phi$; 91 score, $29\frac{1}{2}\phi$; 90 score, 28ϕ .

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, $13\frac{1}{2}$ to $15\frac{1}{2}\phi$; Single Daisies, 14 to $14\frac{1}{2}\phi$; Young Americas $14\frac{1}{4}$ to $14\frac{3}{4}\phi$. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XLIII, No. 56

Section 1

December 5, 1931.

THE HOME-

BUILDING CON- FERENCE

Qualified approval of President Hoover's plan to stimulate home ownership by decreasing the percentage of down payment was given by the finance committee of the home-building and home-ownership conference at Washington yesterday. The meeting was presided over by Frederick H. Ecker, president of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company. "Every American family which so desires and is financially able should own its own home," the committee agreed, but it warned that all factors should be considered by a prospective buyer, and flatly opposed the stimulation of new building "until the increase in population or returned prosperity justify the broad building program." Ray Lyman Wilbur, Secretary of the Interior, and co-chairman of the conference, told of the need for concerted plans to improve housing conditions and revealed that this conference is considered by its sponsors as only preliminary to further work. (Press, Dec. 5.)

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR FARM BOYS AND GIRLS

A Chicago dispatch today states that the names of 100 boys and girls living on farms in thirty-six States to whom have been awarded \$500 scholarships to help them through college, were announced yesterday, by Cyrus McCormick, jr., vice president of the International Harvester Company, which offered \$50,000 in scholarships in celebration of the centennial of the invention of the reaper.

FEDERAL UNION LEAVES A.F. OF L.

The National Federation of Federal Employees last night withdrew from the American Federation of Labor by a vote of 16,335 to 11,406 of its membership, a majority of 4,929 for withdrawal, according to the press today.

THE BRITISH TARIFF

A London dispatch today says: "Heavy duties affecting numerous articles under the antidumping act, which were established recently by the board of trade, were confirmed by the House of Commons yesterday by a vote of 234 to 37. In the debate on the measure, Walter Runciman, president of the board of trade, declared Britain could not afford to ignore tariff barriers set up against British goods by other nations...."

LATIN NATIONS IN BANK PARLEY

A Lima, Peru, dispatch December 2 states that banking interests of five South American countries met informally there December 1 to begin search for a way out of their financial difficulties. The conference will open formally with delegates from the central banks of Peru, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador and Bolivia in attendance. The report says: "Efforts to interest the Federal Reserve System of the United States in South American finances are expected to be made...."

A Lima dispatch December 3 says: "Bankers of five South American countries seeking a solution of their financial problems, met here December 2 and adjourned until Friday to allow a committee to finish a program for the conference...."

Section 2

Australian Spaghetti A Melbourne dispatch today says: "The steamer Balranald will leave for England tomorrow carrying 1,000,000 cartons of spaghetti and macaroni, to be handled by 5,000 shops throughout Great Britain. The new industry is due to the successful growing of suitable red wheat in South Australia, and the shippers hope eventually to supply Britain with all of her annual requirements of 5,000 tons. Hitherto Australia imported \$10,000 worth of macaroni yearly."

Cyprus Agriculture The Near East and India for November 19 says: "Very considerable improvements in the organization of the Cyprus Department of Agriculture have been effected in recent years and efforts have been made to provide efficient service for the agriculturists of the island and for the investigation of the possibilities of additional industries. Experiment stations for wine and citrus have been established, trials with different varieties of cereals organized, and the acquisition of land completed for a central experiment station and an agricultural college. Additional nursery gardens for the supply of planting material of good quality have been established, and a considerable number of demonstration plots started in cooperation with growers of vines, citrus, carobs, olives, etc. The stock farm has been maintained at a high level, and stud animals supplied through it to the several stud stables which exist in various parts of the island, whilst the veterinary division of the department has done good work in the control of anthrax and other diseases of stock and poultry. Efforts have also been made to assist the further development of silk production and to encourage the cultivation of flax. Assistance has been given to tobacco growers, and an instructional dairy for the production of dairy products and cheese, an instructional apiary, a fruit canning plant, and a tannery have been established. Agricultural education has been continued at the Nicosia Agricultural College, and a special effort has been made to train the teachers of elementary schools in the elements of agriculture with a view to the further development of school gardens and of the teaching of biological subjects in the elementary schools. Cereals cover the greatest area of any one type of cultivation in Cyprus. The large plains situated in various parts of the island are covered with cereals as a winter crop, and very considerable areas on the hill slopes are also grown in wheat and barley. Yields generally are not high, as the land is not in a high state of fertility...."

McKelvie on Farm Conditions Sam R. McKelvie, former Governor of Nebraska, predicted at New York December 2 that agriculture would be the first to recover from the depression and he urged that it receive the same consideration as all other interests in the country. His address was given at a luncheon in his honor at the Advertising Club. The foundation of fortunes are being laid now by men of confidence, according to Mr. McKelvie. Millions of farmers throughout the country do not know the unemployment which exists elsewhere, he said.

Michigan Apples An editorial in The Michigan Farmer for November 28 says: "In his report of the Grange sessions, Stanley Powell advises that he failed to mention that heretofore Pacific coast fruit had been used for the Grange ritualistic work, but that this year Michigan fruit was provided

by the Ludington Fruit Exchange for this purpose. Michigan produces apples of quality, but when we try to market the good apples with culls in the same basket we are playing into the hands of our western competition, even though the little wormy apples may be in the bottom of the container and the good ones on top. The production of quality fruit and uniform grading and standardization of pack are the essentials for getting Michigan consumers interested in Michigan fruit. Since apples are reported on eighty-eight per cent of Michigan farms any effort that will insure 'Michigan Fruit for Michigan Folks' will certainly redound to the benefit of Michigan farmers."

Railway Rates

The Interstate Commerce Commission December 1 authorized railroads serving North Atlantic seaports to disregard changes in freight rates from eastern classification territory, due to become effective at once, in so far as they relate to goods for export and import. The changes result from lengthy investigation. In most instances, except on some classes of farm products, the revision is upward. Recently railroads serving seaports asked that they be permitted to retain the old rates for goods hauled for export and for those imported. (Press, Dec. 2.)

St. Lawrence Waterway

A new plan for development of the St. Lawrence waterway, modifying a previous proposal for a two-stage project has been suggested by Canada to the United States, according to the press today. The report says: "The suggestion was made informally in negotiations looking toward a treaty to permit development of the proposed seaway. It adheres to Canada's previous contention there should be two dams in the international section of the waterway, but would provide for the building of one of them at Chrysler Island instead of Ogden Island. The other dam, as the previous plan contemplated, would be at Barnhardt Island. The joint board of engineers will consider the suggestion at its meeting now expected to take place soon....."

Texas Cattle

An editorial in Farm and Ranch for November 28 says: "'West Texas Today,' the official publication of the west Texas chamber of commerce, devoted its November issue to the Texas Breeder-Feeder movement. The west Texas chamber of commerce has adopted a livestock program as one of its major objectives. Within the borders of its territory are the large ranches of the State, and on these ranches are bred some of the finest beef cattle, sheep and goats of America. Thousands of these animals are annually shipped into the corn belt where they are finished for the market. For years Texas has been content to furnish the animals for the farmers in other States to feed, and undoubtedly we will continue in that business on a large scale for many years to come, but it is also on the program that we will make a market for our own feedstuffs before we make a market for somebody else. The outcome of this determination will be the feeding of a constantly increasing number of calves and lambs on Texas farms. It is important, according to the west Texas chamber of commerce, that the meat from Texas fed animals be of quality and that the people of this State consume their own product; that Texas meat be sold on merit and under its own name...."

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XLIII, No. 57

Section 1

December 7, 1931.

THE NEW CONGRESS

The Associated Press today says: "Congress meets today to wrestle with mighty issues in a session made significant by business tribulation, the approaching presidential election and close political divisions. President Hoover early yesterday completed his annual message, charting for the Federal Legislature a course by which he hopes to quicken the stride of returning prosperity. Leaders of both parties have placed economic legislation at the top of the session's program. The Hoover moratorium, taxes, agricultural problems and prohibition also are to receive early consideration...."

FARM PLEAS: TO CONGRESS

A Chicago dispatch today says: "Three thousand farmers from 40 States assembled in Chicago under the banner of the American Farm Bureau Federation last night for the announced purpose of 'laying down the law to Congress.' Legal methods to increase market prices, reduce taxes, broaden credit sources and eliminate surpluses were some of the problems the farmers had on their program for a three-day convention, from today through Wednesday...."

TREASURY TO ASK LOAN

Secretary Mellon announced last night that for the fourth time this year the Treasury will borrow more than a billion dollars. The Government will offer a combination of securities totaling \$1,300,000,000 and dated December 15. Of this, \$1,090,000,000 must be used to pay debts due on that day, leaving \$210,000,000 for Government operations until March 15. (Press, Dec. 7.)

POWER BOARD

The press today says: "Justice Gordon, in the District of Columbia Supreme Court, decided Saturday that the Senate had no right to change its mind after confirming the nomination of George Otis Smith of Maine as chairman of the Power Commission...."

SOUTHERN PACIFIC SALARY REDUC- TION

A New York dispatch today says: "A reduction of 10 per cent in the salaries of all officers and employees of the Southern Pacific Railway Co., excepting those under contract or group wage agreements, has been ordered to take effect January 1, according to an announcement made at the offices of the executive committee of the company in New York yesterday."

INTERNATIONAL BANK

A Basle, Switzerland, dispatch today says: "For the first time since the Hoover suspension of debt and reparations payments, the World Bank is able to report a slight increase in its resources instead of a heavy decline. As the monthly statement shows, funds on Nov. 30 totaled 1,107,307,600 Swiss francs (about \$213,000,000), which is about \$2,600,000 more than on Oct. 31...."

Section 2

Canadian Rail Wages A Montreal dispatch December 5 states that the Canadian Pacific and Canadian National Railways have announced their intention of making retroactive to Nov. 15 a cut of 10 per cent in the wages of their "running trades" employees, and the announcement was followed by a protest to the railways and to the Department of Labor at Ottawa by the men that the employers had no right to make such a move.

Canadian Wheat J. S. Woodward, writing on "Wheat and Politics on the Prairies" in the Autumn issue of Queen's Quarterly (Kingston, Canada) says: "....While wheat is only one of the products of this country, it is the principal product and must, for some time to come, be considered the yardstick by which the prosperity of Saskatchewan and Alberta, at least, will be measured. There has been some increase in dairy products and in livestock, and there has been a decrease in prices, not, perhaps, on a scale commensurate with the drop in wheat. If, however, it should have happened that world conditions brought about a large decline in the prices of these products, with stabilized prices for wheat, the economic depression in the country, on the whole, would not have been felt to the degree prevailing at present. Further, whereas the return to the farmer of the prairies has been set down at a figure for No. 1 Northern wheat, at the price of approximately fifty-five cents a bushel on the average for the crop season to date, the cost of transporting this wheat to the European markets has been estimated by the Board of Grain Commissioners as averaging $34\frac{1}{2}$ cents per bushel. It may, therefore, not be surprising to find that among those who feel that direct government assistance to the wheat producers is essential, if the basic structure of the west is to survive, there is a growing conviction that something must be done to reduce these transportation costs. There are those who believe that the opening of the Hudson Bay route will have some bearing on this problem. Experimental shipments through Churchill of 500,000 bushels are under way this fall, and it will possibly be found that an amount approaching ten cents a bushel may be saved, provided, of course, that this route proves to be as successful as the people of the western provinces have for years believed it will be. Ocean rates and insurance will be the final determining factors, and these can be established definitely only after sufficient experience of the route under actual commercial tests...."

Coffee Plans A Sao Paulo dispatch states that coffee growers are holding meetings in Sao Paulo and drafting plans for new demands on the government for aid. Coffee shipments for November are 600,000 bags, promising a good monthly total. The drought is still curtailing business in the Northeastern States and the government at Rio de Janeiro is appropriating large sums for relief."

County Nurses An editorial in The Farmer and Farm, Stock and Home for November 28 says: "In times like these there is more than ordinary need to try to keep well, first, because sickness is usually more prevalent, and, second, because most of us can't afford to be sick. Since the county nurse probably does more to keep rural people well than any other one person, it would seem that now, of all times, her work is

particularly needed. Yet some counties are considering letting their county nurses go as part of their tax reduction program. The Farmer and F.S.&H. is convinced that any such move would be just the opposite of economy--and we mean economy of dollars and cents as well as in human happiness...."

Farm Pests

An editorial in California Cultivator for November 28 says: "Few of us realize the loss agriculture suffers annually from the various pests and diseases that prey on farm crops, in fact in these times of heavy overproduction we are apt to look upon this loss as a sort of blessing in disguise for what the pests destroy does not have to be harvested and marketed. However, we would all prefer that these pests and diseases attack the other fellow's crops, permitting us to harvest a full crop and thereby profit by his misfortune....That pests can and are being effectively controlled is an established fact. It is also pretty well realized that the cost of such control is always materially less where it is done at the proper time, which is usually before they become so numerous as to be already seriously damaging the crop...."

Living Standard

An editorial in The Country Guide for December says: "One of the antidotes for depressions that is being offered is that the standard of living should be permanently reduced. The advocates of this kindergarten brand of economic thought believe that during the late lamented period of prosperity the common people lived too high....Thrift is a virtue and extravagance is always to be deplored, but does that mean that people are to be forever denied the pleasures and satisfactions of modern life because their grandfathers happened to die before automobiles and radios and the galloping snapshots were thought of? Is the genius of great men like Edison and Ford and Marconi, which made these things possible, to be so stultified that it will contribute only to the ostentation of the comparatively rich?...It is a complicated problem, but it boils down to this: In this modern industrial set-up, there are three great economic factors, each of which must function freely or general stagnation results. They are industry, commerce and finance. Industry, which includes agriculture, is capable of producing everything in abundance and is anxious to do so. Commerce, which consists roughly of transportation and distribution, is capable of moving the products of industry from where they are produced to where they are needed and is also willing and anxious to do its share. They are both in distress because the financial factor can not be made to function properly. When modern society learns to control finance, to make it servant instead of master, these depressions will disappear and everyone who is willing to give a fair day's work for a fair day's pay will be able to enjoy a fair share of the great and fine things that its Edisons and Fords and Marconis have made possible. There will be no need of lowering the standard of living, permanently or temporarily. Industry and commerce could be made much more efficient than they are, but it is in the field of currency and credit and fiscal policy that the cause of these recurring depressions lie."

Russia

An editorial in The Wall St. Journal for December 5 says:

"Recent news out of Russia has been such as the Moscow official press uniformly represents the capitalist world as gloating over. It tells of diminished grain harvests, chronic insufficiency of transport, local shortages of fuel, failure of factory production to match the program statistics of the five-year plan, and, most curious among all these, difficulties in financing industrialization. These imperfectly reported but plainly discernible conditions in the home of applied communism afford little ground for smug conclusions as to the ultimate outcome of an experiment in man's control of his material status which has no parallel in his written history. Nor has the available evidence much bearing upon insistent but rather stupid questioning whether the five-year plan is a success or a failure. Those who appear to be best qualified to express judgment thereon dismiss it with the observation that the plan can neither succeed nor fail. The point is, in other words, that whatever the new Russian rule is in the way of accomplishing toward energizing 160,000,000 people and giving their physical existence something of western organization will, for better or for worse, be something achieved. The really significant aspect of events in Russia this year is the support they offer those who have believed from the first that the Russian experiment was bound to undergo an evolution, and that is gravitation was sure to be toward reconciliation between the Russian and western theories of the state. It is unlikely, of course, that Russian political faith has consciously or deliberately moved in the direction of our own respect for individual personality, but it is fairly clear that the conception of a single national will wholly subordinating the individual to fixed social purposes has begun to collide with ancient human nature. Collectivization of agriculture, for example, has succeeded beyond expectations, only to find itself face to face with a reincarnation of individualism in the constituent members of the farm collectives. The kulak has been extirpated, but a new manifestation of kulakism has emerged, powerful enough to compel immediate far-reaching modification of the first five-year plan and to affect materially the preparation of the second. These changes of Moscow policy, stripped of esoteric phraseology, mean that by just so much as collectivism or state capitalism makes headway in righting the economic chaos that was Russia during and after the World War the mass of the people are raising their minimum standards of living and the government is compelled to act accordingly. They mean that the most nearly despotic sway over a large population in the world today finds it impossible even to suspend for any length of time the common human craving for a better personal existence...."

Section 3 MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

Dec. 4.--Livestock prices at Chicago: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers, steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$7.50 to \$12.75; cows, good and choice \$3.50 to \$5; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$6 to \$9.50; vealers, good and choice \$5 to \$6.50; feeder and stocker cattle, steers, good and choice \$3.50 to \$6.50. Heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$4.10 to \$4.25; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$3.90 to \$4.20; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$3.35 to \$3.75 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs.) down) \$5.35 to \$6.25; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$4 to \$5.

Grain prices: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis 73 $\frac{5}{8}$ ¢ to 75 $\frac{5}{8}$ ¢; No.2 red winter, St. Louis 58¢ to 59 $\frac{5}{8}$ ¢; Kansas City 57 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to 58 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.2 hard winter, Kansas City 52 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to 53 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.3 mixed corn, Chicago 37 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢ to 38¢; Minneapolis 41 to 42¢; Kansas City 41¢ to 42¢; No.3 yellow, Chicago 35¢ to 38 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Minneapolis 46¢ to 47¢; St. Louis 37¢ to 38¢; Kansas City 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to 43¢; No.3 white oats, Chicago 26¢ to 27¢; Minneapolis 26 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to 27 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; St. Louis 26 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City 26 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to 29¢.

Maine sacked Green Mountain potatoes ranged 85¢-\$1.15 per 100 pounds in eastern cities; 42¢-48¢ f.o.b. Presque Isle. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites 80¢-85¢ carlot sales in Chicago; 60¢ f.o.b. Waupaca. New York and Midwestern sacked yellow varieties of onions \$1-\$1.75 per 50- pounds in consuming centers; \$1.50 f.o.b. West Michigan. New York Danish type cabbage \$20-\$25 bulk per ton in terminal markets; \$14-\$15 f.o.b. Rochester. Northern Danish type \$25 in St. Louis; \$16 f.o.b. Racine. Virginia East Shore Jersey type sweet potatoes 90¢-\$1.50 per stave barrel in the East. Maryland and Delaware stock 55¢-90¢ per bushel hamper in city markets. Tennessee Nancy Halls 85¢-90¢ in Chicago. New York Rhode Island Greening apples, No.1, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches up, \$1.37 $\frac{1}{2}$ -\$1.50 per bushel basket in New York City; Baldwins 85¢ f.o.b. Rochester. Michigan Ben Davis, Grimes, Wagners and Staymans 75¢-85¢; Baldwins 75¢-90¢ and Delicious \$1.40-\$1.50 per bushel tub in Chicago; Baldwins \$1.50 f.o.b. West Michigan points.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 30 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; 91 score, 30¢; 90 score, 28¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to 15 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Single Daisies, 14 to 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Young Americas 14 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢ to 14 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in the ten designated markets declined 6 points to 5.70¢ per lb. On the same day one year ago the price stood at 9.66¢. December future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 7 points to 5.98¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 6 points to 6.00¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)



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Vol. XLIII, No. 58

Section 1

December 8, 1931.

THE NEW CONGRESS Assembling at noon yesterday at Washington for their first session, the Senators and Representatives of the Seventy-second Congress found themselves confronted by the necessity of finding legislative remedies for serious domestic conditions growing out of two years of economic distress. According to the press today, 5,000 prospective laws were filed in the legislative mill of the House. The Senate will receive bills today or tomorrow. The House elected John Nance Garner, of Texas, Speaker of the House.

The President's recommendations with regard to increased taxes to pare down a prospective \$2,000,000,000 deficit will be contained in his annual budget message, which will be delivered to Congress today. Tomorrow the President will send to Congress a special message urging approval of his one-year moratorium on intergovernmental debts.

FARM RELIEF PLANS A Chicago dispatch today says: "The American Farm Bureau Federation, the National Grange and the National Farmer's Union, although disapproving the Federal Farm Board's stabilization methods, will champion the board and the marketing act before Congress, E. A. O'Neal, president of the federation; L. J. Taber, head of the Grange, and John Simpson, president of the Farmer's Union, announced last night. Until this conclusion was reached, each of the three groups favored a different method of controlling agricultural surpluses. They all agree that Federal financing as provided in the farm marketing act, 'can never succeed,' but they will oppose strenuously any efforts to have the act repealed by Congress...."

RAIL RATES The press today says: "The Interstate Commerce Commission yesterday sanctioned the railway executives' plan for setting up a credit corporation to administer, in the form of loans to the weaker roads, a fund of \$100,000,000 to \$125,000,000 expected by the commission to result from specific freight rate increases suggested in its recent decision which rejected the 15 per cent increase proposed by the carriers for all freight rates. The commission acted on the petition of the Association of Railway Executives for certain modifications in the plan suggested by the commission for restoring railroad credit, and preventing receiverships...."

BRITISH TARIFFS A London dispatch today says: "The House of Commons last night debated 100 per cent import duties on early vegetables and fruits while growls of an agitated and angry Europe were borne to the legislators from across the Channel and the North Sea. Harassed by demands from a large section of its conservative supporters for higher tariffs, the government has had to face recriminations, formal or informal, in respect of those already existing from France, Germany, Belgium, Holland, Scandinavia, Spain and Portugal. The French protest has been the loudest, and the...British official view is that France has nothing to complain about...."

Section 2

Business

Comparisons

An editorial in The Wall St. Journal for December 7 says: "Though it is becoming a somewhat familiar 'stunt' to find in the dusty literature of past years current economic surveys that bear a startling applicability to affairs today, room may still be made for this interesting market letter of H. W. Farley, 'cotton factor and commission merchant,' at New York, dated November 15, 1873: 'The financial panic that has prevailed throughout the country, for several weeks past, has, after all, thus far resulted more in terror and distrust (like a storm that suddenly arises and sweeps over the land), than in actual irreparable disaster, and tends to show the previous sound condition of the material interests of the country taken altogether. The banking, mercantile and manufacturing interests, with comparatively few exceptions, have withstood the storm, and many of those exceptional cases have been found amply able to give good assurance of their ability to protect their creditors against ultimate loss. The crops of cotton, grain and other important products of the country are nearly all yet to be marketed. Our banks are already beginning to show evidences of renewed and increasing strength. Our imports are reduced almost to nothing. Economy, as per necessity, if for no other reason, prevails. Terror is subsiding in a measure, and the 'situation' is being confronted by all available means conceivable, and distrust must, before very long, give way to confidence; tardily, it may be, at first, but more rapidly after the first few timid steps are taken. Then all will be well, and the country in better condition, by the effervescence that has thrown off the scum that impregnated the body politic with disease. Money will not only be accessible to commerce, but abundant as compared with the inducements for investment....In a short time, we may expect to see a general resumption of business in all its departments, and a strong favorable reaction in prices of our exportable products.'...When this letter was written the troubles of the 70s had only begun; the writer's expectation of general resumption of business 'in a short time' was premature by several years. To labor over similarities or divergences between the situation here described and that of today would be a waste of time, but it is worth something to remind ourselves that courage in adversity has always found its justification in the past. It may be expected to do so again."

Home Building

The Business Week for December 9 says: "Construction of single-family dwellings, considered by many an extremely important index of business trends, seems to be reviving in the Northwest and mid-West. Northwest Bancorporation of Minneapolis, with large bank holdings in 10 States, has completed a survey showing an increase of 11.8% in number, 9.5% in value, of homes built in the first 10 months of 1931 compared with the similar period of 1930. Data were collected from 32 cities of 10,000 population or more in Minnesota, western Wisconsin, Iowa, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Montana, Wyoming, Idaho, and eastern Washington. The gains were made in Duluth, St. Paul, Minneapolis, Cedar Rapids, Des Moines, Mason City, Ottumwa, Omaha, Grand Forks, Sioux Falls, Cheyenne, and Boise. The other 20 cities studied showed declines. In first 10 months of 1930 the 32 cities studied built 2,954 single-family dwellings, value \$11,989,000. In the corresponding period of 1931, the same cities built 3,305 single houses, value \$13,128,000. Average cost per dwelling in 1930 was \$4,058; this year,

\$3,972. But, owing to lower construction costs, the type of house built is considerably better this year than last."

Iron Paving

They are paving some of the streets of London with cast iron, now the horse is gone. The iron is surfaced to prevent skidding, and cushioned beneath with a "float" of bitumen, or tar, so the vibration of traffic will not affect the roadway's foundation. (Wall St. Jour., Dec. 1.)

Labor

Richard Woods Edmonds, writing under the title "Is Labor More Efficient Today?" in Barron's for December 7, says: "Is labor actually any more industrious and efficient under present conditions than when jobs are plentiful? Sometimes, yes; sometimes, no. Largely it is a question of management. Several writers lately have said that it is, and have broadly intimated or clearly stated that this increased efficiency on the part of the manual worker has considerably lowered cost of production....Except for reduced turnover, there are very large classes of labor whose industry and productivity are entirely untouched by present conditions. I am convinced that no sweeping statement regarding increased industry of labor is justified; exceptions are too numerous. In hundreds of factories there are processes so highly mechanized that the pace of workers is regulated by the speed of the machines. No amount of industry on the part of the individual worker can speed up the pace of the machine. He simply keeps that pace; if he falls behind too much, he is discharged--he always has been. Such labor is certainly more tenacious of its job; but there is scarcely any room with him for increased industry or efficiency....Not all labor is in factories. What of the building and construction trades? Contractors on road building, on building construction, and on such miscellaneous work as excavation, dams, and power houses, tell, on the whole, a very similar story. Their production per man is better, partly due without doubt to a greater desire to hold the job; but largely, they believe, to the employer's ability to select the cream of the various trades. However, close questioning often indicates a greater response in the ranks of labor than employers had realized--until pinned down to a careful consideration of the question. Thus under close questioning they recall that a good many union men are working quietly for less than the union scale. One contractor spoke of a group of men transferred from the permanent staff to temporary work--a move they would have protested hotly two years ago--but now they are delighted to have jobs of any sort, and are giving all they have...."

Rural Exodus

W. Russell Tylor, University of Illinois, writing under the title "The Exodus From Rural America" in Current History for December, says: "...The majority of the migrations from American farms is for short distances to nearby towns and cities rather than to those further away. These migrants for the most part are in their early adult years, more particularly between 15 and 30, the period of the individual's outstanding vigor and adaptability. Females migrate earlier than males and constitute the dominant factor, since agriculture offers little outlet for women except in marriage. As a result there is a feminization of the urban population, with the chances of marriage for women lessened in the city, although, because of woman's access to industry and the professions, there is an increase in the productive efficiency of society as

a whole. The oldest male child tends to remain on the farm in a greater percentage of rural families. This may be the result of social tradition that amounts to primogeniture or entail among the rural aristocracy or the influence of family duty and solidarity among the less wealthy and poorer farm families. In any case it tends to keep representatives of each type of family in agriculture, the wealthier as well as the poorer. In the Virginia Tidewater, for example, 53 per cent of the poorer class of rural whites as well as 53 per cent of the more prosperous migrated to cities, while among the Negroes the percentages were 57 and 56....Studies indicate that the families of these rural migrants, as well as the families of the urbanites themselves, give their children more formal education than do families remaining on the farm. Farming, however, is primarily a matter of direct experience, even in this era of science, and farmers are selected by their liking for this type of experience much more than by their education. Formal education is not as valid for measuring the qualitative differences between farmers and the urban classes as it may be between the different types of urban classes themselves....While largely responsible for the growth of the city, the exodus from the country has at the same time intensified the problem of rural life. It has been accompanied by a growth of tenancy and absentee landlordism and by a decline and instability of community life in many sections. The instability of rural life, however, must not be attributed solely to this city drift. Migrations to the city and village together comprise but three-fifths of the total migrations of farm people. The other two-fifths constitute the movement from farm to farm in the same or in different localities. This movement has no part in the rural exodus, although it does contribute substantially to the instability of rural community life...."

Wool Market

The Commercial Bulletin (Boston) for December 5 says: "There has been a moderate business in nearly all descriptions of wool, but in comparatively small lots, during the week. This demand, however, has been sufficient to keep prices steady. The foreign markets have eased slightly during the week, but the clean landed costs of wools to import still are above the domestic wool parity. The New Zealand opening was somewhat disappointing, but fair demand is reported for good wool. The manufacturers are securing some business all the while in a moderate manner; more, in fact, than had been thought likely at this particular time. There is not sufficient business passing, however, to improve prices."

Section 3 MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

Dec. 7.—Livestock prices at Chicago: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers; steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$7.50 to \$12.50; cows, good and choice \$3.50 to \$5; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$6.25 to \$9.50; vealers, good and choice \$5 to \$6.75; feeder and stocker cattle; steers, good and choice \$5 to \$6.50. Heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$4.25 to \$4.40; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$3.85 to \$4.25; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$3 to \$3.75 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$5.50 to \$6.35; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$4 to \$5.

Grain: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis 72 $\frac{7}{8}$ ¢ to 74 $\frac{7}{8}$ ¢; No.2 red winter, Chicago 59 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; St. Louis 58 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to 60 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ (Nom); Kansas City 54 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to 58¢; No.2 hard winter, Kansas City 52 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.3 mixed corn, Chicago 37 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ (new); Minneapolis 41¢ to 43¢; Kansas City 38 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to 40¢; No.3 yellow, Chicago 35 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to 38 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ (new); Minneapolis 44¢ to 45¢; St. Louis 37¢ to 38 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City 40¢ to 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.3 white oats, Chicago 24 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to 26 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Minneapolis 26 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to 27 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; St. Louis 26¢ to 26 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City 27¢ to 29 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ (Nom).

Maine sacked Green Mountain potatoes 80¢-\$1.15 per 100 pounds in eastern cities; 43¢-48¢ f.o.b. Presque Isle. Northern Round Whites, sacked 80¢-85¢ carlot sales in Chicago; 60¢ f.o.b. Waupaca. New York and Midwestern yellow varieties \$1.20-\$1.90 per 50-pound sack in consuming centers; \$1.20-\$1.25 f.o.b. Rochester. New York Danish type cabbage \$16-\$25 bulk per ton in terminal markets; top of \$30 in St. Louis, with f.o.b. sales \$14-\$15 at Rochester. Northern Danish type retrimmed \$20-\$25 in St. Louis; \$16-\$18 f.o.b. Racine. Florida and South Carolina Pointed type \$2-\$2.50 per 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ -bushel hampers in eastern city markets. Virginia East Shore Jersey type sweet potatoes \$1-\$1.75 per stave barrel in the East. Tennessee Nancy Halls 80¢-90¢ per bushel hamper in the Middle West. New York McIntosh apples, No.1, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches up, \$1.50-\$2; Rhode Island Greenings \$1.12 $\frac{1}{2}$ -\$1.37 $\frac{1}{2}$; Wealthys 75¢-\$1 per bushel basket in New York City; Rhode Island Greenings, cold storage stock, \$1.35 f.o.b. Rochester.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in the ten designated markets declined 2 points to 5.68¢ per lb. On the same day one year ago the price stood at 9.51¢. December future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 2 points to 5.97¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 3 points to 5.99¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 31¢; 91 score, 30¢; 90 score, 28 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to 15 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Single Daisies, 13 to 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Young Americas, 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to 14 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

Vol. XLIII, No. 59

Section 1

December 9, 1931.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The press today reports: "Recommendations for increased taxation and more Government borrowing with the purpose of making some headway toward curtailing the heavy and growing deficit in public finances, and a comprehensive program of legislation intended to help business to recover from the economic depression, are the salient features of President Hoover's annual message on the state of the Union, which he submitted yesterday to both Houses of Congress. While the President requested Congress to provide that the proposed tax increases shall be operative only until July 1, 1934, he withheld a definite outline of the necessary legislation. This gap will be filled today, when his annual budget message and the annual report of the Secretary of the Treasury will be laid before the chambers.

"Measures proposed by the President for legislative action, some of which he had outlined previously, include formation of 'the reconstruction finance corporation,' with a Government subscribed capital of \$500,000,000 which, according to an administration bill introduced yesterday, may be increased to \$1,500,000,000 through the sale of debentures to the public.

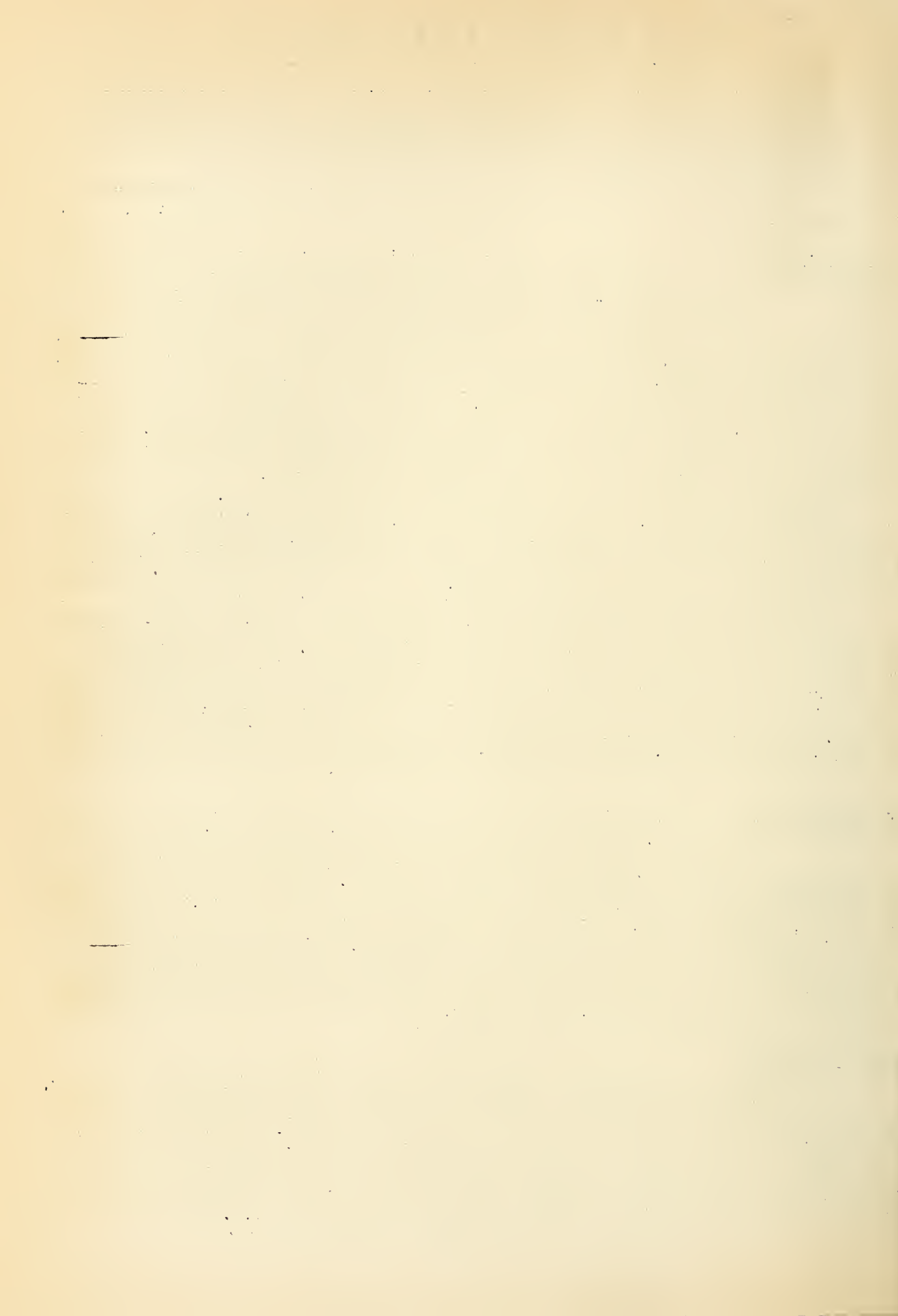
"Other proposals were for help for the railroads, including group consolidation legislation; subscription of further capital to the Federal Land Banks, extension of the eligibility of Federal Reserve Bank paper, the establishment of a system of home loan discount banks to relieve distressed conditions among home and farm owners, some enactment to allow depositors to get back their money from closed banks, and mild amendment of the anti-trust laws to minimize destructive competition and, especially, to relieve hardships experienced by the bituminous coal, oil and lumber industries because of unregulated production...."

THE FINANCE BILLS

Two bills to carry into effect President Hoover's proposal for a \$500,000,000 emergency reconstruction corporation to aid business in general were offered in the Senate and the House yesterday immediately after the President's message was read. The proposed organization, sponsors of the measure said, will help "almost any line of business," including agriculture, industry, banks and railways. It would be patterned after the War Finance Corporation, but its powers would be "broader." The bills, which were identical and emanated from the administration, were presented by Senator Walcott, of Connecticut, and by Representative Strong, of Kansas, members of the respective banking and currency committees. (Press, Dec. 9.)

GERMAN CONDITIONS

A Berlin dispatch today says: "Yesterday witnessed two events of tremendous import in the life of all residents of Germany. One was the signing of the new emergency decrees by President von Hindenburg, ordering a drastic reduction in commodity prices, professional fees, house rents, transport fares and wages, and providing for some new increases in taxes. The second event was an emphatic warning to the whole nation by Chancellor Bruening, in an address over the radio, that martial law would be proclaimed if necessary to curb the activities of Adolf Hitler and his party...."



Section 2

Brazil to
Destroy
Coffee

The National Coffee Council of Brazil announced plans December 7 for the stabilization of coffee prices, including the destruction of 12,000,000 bags in the next twelve months and the placing of an additional tax of five shillings a bag on coffee exports from the country, according to a cable dispatch to the New York Coffee and Sugar Exchange. The coffee that is pledged against foreign loans is to be safeguarded, the cable said. The decision to destroy the 12,000,000 bags was reported as unanimous. (N.Y. Times, Dec. 8.)

Business
Situation

The Business Week for Dec. 9 says: "It involves no serious strain on one's optimism to see in the current statistical straws some signs of stabilization in the level of domestic business activity and some promise of improvement in the next ninety days....The October bulge in commodity and stock prices as well as in some business indicators was in larger part wiped out during November, but on the whole there has been no serious set-back, and some net gain....Stock averages have been bashful about breaking through the bear market lows; commodities still oscillate reassuringly around the levels that have been held for nearly six months....Steel activity and carloadings have succumbed very slowly to the usual seasonal slackening, and some stimulus to steel is still to be expected from year-end new-model automotive demand....The heart-breaking bond market is the outstanding and disturbing exception to this promising picture; and the accompanying banking strain and slackness in new capital issues must be overcome before we can count on a clear track for recovery....The imminent bankruptcy of Germany explained at length in this issue, and the threatened breakdown of our own railroad structure unless prompt relief is supplied, are now the most or only formidable obstacles to stabilization of the securities markets and fundamental betterment in the outlook for business in this country....It is reasonable to expect that something constructive will soon be forthcoming toward the recuperation of railroad credit; and while it is impossible to be so hopeful about European affairs, American business opinion is slowly reconciling itself to the fact that it must turn its attention to domestic possibilities of expansion."

Farm Bureau

Federation

A Chicago dispatch December 8 states that the Farm Bureau Federation opened its annual convention December 7 with delegates present from forty States. The report says: "President O'Neal, in his address, emphasized that two-thirds of the farmers of the Nation were not members of any farm organization. Yet, he said, those who were organized were united behind a movement to increase agriculture's approach to equality with industry....After urging a militant plan to obtain legislation, Mr. O'Neal said farmers should demand more Federal regulation of grain and cotton exchanges, an improved marketing act, less taxes, equality with other industry and greater credits. 'To carry out that program we must have a huge array of men and women throughout the Nation,' he said. 'The only voice that is heard in the Nation today is the voice of organization. We must be aroused and organized. It is our only salvation.' The three farm organizations have also joined in a demand for tax reform on the basis of earnings, and will advocate State income taxes to abate taxes on land...."

"Professor M. L. Wilson, economist, of Montana Agricultural College, proposed a national research program to determine the competitive forces in agriculture. Through State and regional councils, he

1. The first part of the paper
is devoted to a general
discussion of the problem
of the existence of a
solution of the system of
equations

would discover a 'scientific basis for adjustments of supply.' Aside from the problem of stabilizing the dollar or stabilizing prices, the stabilizing of production is the most important and perhaps most difficult problem in agriculture, Professor Wilson declared.

"Three men were singled out by the federation for its annual award 'for distinguished service to agriculture,' Frank O. Lowden, former Governor of Illinois, who championed the equalization fee principle at the Republican National Convention in 1928; Andrew Shearer of Frankfort, Kans., one of the first to urge the county agricultural agent system, and E. V. Titus of Glen Cove, N.Y., called the 'grand old man of New York agriculture.'"

Money Market

The December Monthly Review of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York says: "A marked change in the banking situation has occurred during the past month. The extraordinary outflow of gold has been followed by a renewed gain of gold. The demand for currency has been greatly reduced until in recent weeks it has been of less than the usual seasonal proportions. Bank failures have diminished considerably in number. Liquidation of bank credit has continued, but has been less rapid than in October. The easier condition of the money market, resulting from these various changes in the situation, has been reflected in a fairly general, though moderate, decline in open market money rates. The gradual decline in the leading European exchanges that began in the latter part of October continued in November, so that near the end of the month most of these exchanges that are still convertible into gold were closer to the gold import points at New York than to the gold export points. There were rather substantial receipts of gold from the Far East and small amounts from Latin American countries and Canada, and a part of the gold which had been earmarked for foreign account in preceding months was released during November. The result was an increase of approximately \$129,000,000 in the monetary gold stock of this country during November. As a net result of gold imports in the first eight months of the year, heavy losses in September and October, and the gains in recent weeks, the country's gold stock shows a decline for the year to date of about \$174,000,000....."

Phosphorus for Pigs

A San Francisco dispatch to the press of December 6 says: "University of California experts in animal industry, working at the Davis Farm School under Dr. E. H. Hughes, are on the way to developing phosphorescent pigs which will glow at night. Research for a cure for narcotic enteritis discovered the cause of the disease as a lack of calcium and phosphorus in the blood. Experimenting to determine dosage, the students have come to believe that enough phosphorus may be administered to make the porkers luminous, but just what they will be good for has not been announced."

Section 3

Department of
Agriculture

1

The Secretary's Report to the President is reviewed in the press today. Lawrence Sullivan, in a long article in The Washington Post, says: "Despite vastly increased financial aid from the Federal Government, American agriculture made little progress last year toward solution of the fundamental problem of adjusting production to the rapidly changing world demand, Secretary of Agriculture Hyde emphasized in his annual report to Congress made public last night. With his plea for a vigorous policy of 'constructive adjustment' he coupled a warning that if American agriculture continues its present competition in world markets it must face lower standards of living. 'It is time to revise the crude notion that only a continually expanding agriculture can be a profitable agriculture,' he declared....In the face of organized drives for acreage reduction in every major crop, the combined plantings in 1930 were the largest in the history of the Nation, the report revealed. ...Save as they apply to cotton and tobacco, every factor in world economy today dictates the wisdom of re-establishing American agriculture on a basis of domestic supply, the report suggests...."

"In the long-time view, Secretary Hyde pointed out, the stimulus to agricultural exports was America's need for the industrial products of Europe. Since the World War, however, this need has vanished and Europe at the same time, has developed other sources of agricultural supply, in Canada, Australia, Argentina and New Zealand. Never has the agricultural policy of the United States taken into account these basic changes. To recognize them now 'is not a policy of defeatism, a passive acceptance of declining business,' he added. 'It is a policy of constructive adjustment to a radically changing market situation.'..."

2

The New York Times today says: "Prosperity for American agriculture will come only through a readjustment of world conditions, which have cut off markets for the surpluses of commodities accumulated in this country, Secretary of Agriculture Hyde told President Hoover in the Annual Report for his department, which was made public today.

"No attempt was made to minimize the plight of agriculture, the value of its products having decreased from \$11,911,000,000 in 1929 and \$9,347,000,000 in 1930 to an estimated total not in excess of \$7,000,000,000 for 1931. The greatest stress was placed on crop reduction, particularly concerning wheat and cotton, as the report noted that the overproduction of these crops in the face of declining export demand had become a regular and not a seasonal occurrence...."

"The report maintained that the tariff act of 1930 has benefited farmers and that the benefit would become more noticeable as production was reduced further toward a domestic basis. It was stated that in the twelve months following passage of the new tariff act imports of dutiable agricultural products declined 53 per cent, compared with a decline of only 7 per cent in the imports of duty-free agricultural products.

"Voluntary adjustment by farmers of their production to demand, rather than legislative changes, was termed the most desirable means of rehabilitation, the report reiterating indirectly the administration opposition to the export debenture or equalization fee...."

Section 4 MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

Dec. 8.--Livestock : Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers, steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$7.75 to \$12.25; cows, good and choice \$3.50 to \$5; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$6.50 to \$9.50; vealers, good and choice \$5.50 to \$7; feeder and stocker cattle, steers, good and choice \$5 to \$6.25; heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$4.15 to \$4.30; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$3.85 to \$4.25; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$3 to \$3.75 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$5.50 to \$6.35; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$4 to \$5.

Grain: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis $68\frac{3}{4}$ to $71\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; No.2 red winter St. Louis $57\frac{7}{8}$ to $59\frac{3}{4}$ ¢ (Nom.); Kansas City 56¢; No.2 hard winter Kansas City 50 to $51\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.3 mixed corn Chicago 38 to $38\frac{1}{4}$ ¢; Minneapolis 41 to 42¢; Kansas City $38\frac{1}{2}$ to $39\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.3 yellow corn Chicago 37 to $38\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Minneapolis 44 to 45¢; St. Louis $36\frac{3}{4}$ to $37\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Kansas City 41 to 42¢; No.3 white oats Chicago 25 to $26\frac{1}{4}$ ¢; Minneapolis $26\frac{1}{8}$ to $27\frac{1}{8}$ ¢; St. Louis 26 to $26\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City 27 to 29¢ (Nom.).

Maine sacked Green Mountain potatoes ranged 90¢-\$1.15 per 100 pounds in eastern cities; 43¢-47¢ f.o.b. Presque Isle. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites 80¢-85¢ carlot sales in Chicago; few 60¢ f.o.b. Waupaca. New York Danish type cabbage \$16-\$25 bulk per ton in terminal markets; \$13-\$15 f.o.b. Rochester. Northern Danish type \$25 in St. Louis; \$16-\$17 f.o.b. Racine. Florida Pointed type \$2-\$2.50 per $1\frac{1}{2}$ -bushel hamper in the East. New York and Midwestern yellow varieties of onions brought \$1.20-\$1.90 per 50-pound sacks in consuming centers; \$1.75-\$1.85 f.o.b. Rochester. Virginia East Shore Jersey type sweet potatoes 90¢-\$1.60 per stave barrel in the East. Maryland and Delaware stock 40¢-85¢ per bushel hamper in city markets. Tennessee Nancy Halls 75¢-90¢ in the Middle West. New York Rhode Island Greening apples, No.1, $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches up, \$1.12 $\frac{1}{2}$ -\$1.25; McIntosh \$1.37 $\frac{1}{2}$ -\$2; Wealthys 75¢-\$1 and Yorks 75¢-80¢ per bushel basket in New York City; Baldwins 80¢ f.o.b. Rochester. Michigan Baldwins 75¢-90¢ in Chicago; 85¢ f.o.b. west Michigan points.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 30¢; 91 score, $29\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; 90 score, $28\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, $13\frac{3}{4}$ to $15\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Single Daisies, 14 to $14\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Young Americas, $14\frac{1}{4}$ to $14\frac{3}{4}$ ¢.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in the ten designated markets declined 4 points to 5.64¢ per lb. On the corresponding day one year ago the price stood at 9.43¢. December future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 2 points to 5.95¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 8 points to 5.91¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

Vol. XLIII, No. 60

Section 1

December 10, 1931.

FEDERAL FISCAL PROGRAM

The press today says: "Drastic overhauling of the Federal Government's fiscal program was recommended to Congress yesterday by President Hoover and Secretary of the Treasury Mellon. The President submitted budget estimates for the fiscal year 1933, beginning next July 1 calling for \$3,996,672,450, a decrease of \$365,000,000 under appropriations for the current fiscal year. At the same time, Mr. Mellon recommended immediate tax increases, to become effective January 1, 1932, which he estimated would add \$390,000,000 to Federal revenues in the period January-June, 1932, and \$920,000,000 for the entire fiscal year ending June 30, 1933. The new rates would apply to 1931 incomes...."

THE SECRETARY AND A.F.B.F.

An Associated Press dispatch from Chicago today says: "Turning a deaf ear to Secretary of Agriculture Hyde, the American Farm Bureau Federation closed its annual meeting yesterday by reaffirming its decade-old demand for the equalization fee principle of crop surplus control. The delegates were unanimous for the fee and for the accompanying demand that the agricultural marketing act should be amended in this session of Congress to include its use....Included in the resolution indorsing the fee and the amendment was a concession to the National Grange's advocacy of the export debenture plan, putting the finishing touch to the accord on a 'harmony' legislative demand reached by Farm Bureau, Grange and National Farmers Union leaders."

WORLD PARLEY PLANNED

A London dispatch today says: "A great 'conference of governments' to investigate all the causes of the world's economic ills is contemplated by the British government, Prime Minister Ramsay MacDonald told the House of Commons yesterday. Declaring flatly that the conference would be held, Mr. MacDonald said the government would like to have it convene immediately after the banking experts now meeting at Basle send in their report. One of the specific tasks of the gathering of governments, the prime minister said, would be to examine 'questions of international debts which lie at the base of our currency problem.'...."

PAISH ON CONDITIONS

A Manchester, England, dispatch today states that Sir George Paish, eminent economist, predicted in an address yesterday that the world's economic system would break down within two months. "If my information is correct, and I think it is, nothing can prevent a complete world breakdown within the next two months," he said. "We must call the nations together without delay to consider the situation. Reparations should be abolished or reduced to so small a figure that they would be negligible. Inter-Allied debts should be written off entirely."

Section 2

A.F.B.F.
Meeting

A Chicago dispatch December 9 says: "Assurance that the Government intended to continue its aid to agriculture was given the American Farm Bureau Federation December 8 by Sam H. Thompson, member of the Farm Board. He said that the marketing act had not put the Government into business and that funds administered by the Farm Board had not been a subsidy to agriculture. The federation's annual meeting was a home-coming for the aging Farm Board member, who served as president of the Farm Bureau for many years.

"One major point in the Farm Bureau program was the stabilization of commodity prices. Representative C. W. Ramseyer, Iowa, a participant in the recent money conference called by the Farm Bureau, urged such stabilization on the basis of 1926 prices. The 'Big Three' of farm organizations--the Federation, the Grange, and the National Farmers Union--have reached an accord on such a stabilization program."

Business
Outlook

Although business activity still lacks evidence of any material upturn, the past month has brought further correction to the one maladjustment at the root of the worldwide industrial depression, namely, the disparity existing between individual income and cost of living, the American Bankers Association Journal says in its current review. "When prices of raw materials dropped to a lower level, the purchasing power of the producers was automatically reduced in terms of other commodities," the Journal says: "Then wage rates began a broad but much slower downward movement, which reduces manufacturing costs and in time is passed on to the public in cheaper prices for goods at retail. Most basic raw materials now appear stabilized and to possess the power to rally sharply when occasion warrants, as in the case of wheat and silver, whereas the cost of living is still declining, as measured by prices of food, clothing, fuel, rents and miscellaneous articles. It is the slowness with which certain economic relationships can be altered that prolongs and intensifies a period of depression or readjustment. It delays the return to the only condition under which goods and services can be exchanged freely. Three essentials to completing the readjustment to the lower level of prices and income now prevailing include: (1) lower government expenditures, indebtedness and taxes; (2) lower transportation costs, the largest item in which is railroad wages, and (3) lower building costs, corresponding with the drastic reductions in building materials. None of these charges is immovable and time will doubtless bring them all back into line. Industrial balance is essential and, considering the extremely low level to which general activity has declined, even a reasonable balance could easily cause the present volume of business to double. Purchasing power and prosperity never come from partial employment at nominally high wage scales, but from full employment at 'natural' wages, determined by supply and demand, be they high or low."

Danish Eggs

W. A. Koch, Danish State Adviser, writing on "Poultry Farming in Denmark" in Danish Foreign Office Journal for October, says: "Egg production is still the leading feature in Danish poultry keeping, and no other country has so large an export of eggs in proportion to the size of population. Thus in late years Denmark has supplied from 12 to 15 per cent of the eggs sold on the world markets, besides which a quite

considerable home consumption of eggs and table poultry is catered for. Statistics give a vivid impression not only of the great increase in the number of fowls kept, but also of the recognized high position which Danish eggs have held for a long number of years. Poultry was included in the livestock census for the first time in 1888, and, apart from the war years, the number of fowls has since then heavily increased. In 1888 there were about 4½ million hens and chickens; by 1898 the number had been almost doubled, amounting to 8.7 million; by 1903 the number had increased to 11½ million, by 1914 to 15 million, and by 1929 to 22 million. In addition there were 73,000 turkeys, 696,000 ducks and 330,000 geese. There are now 375,000 regular hen stocks, most of which are attached to agricultural holdings. Eggs now hold third place among the agricultural exports of Denmark, and the annual value has increased considerably. In 1865, when the export of eggs began, the excess export over import amounted to 35,000 score, and in the period from 1878 to 1901 the excess export increased nearly 13 times. In 1914 the excess reached 21,500,000 score, while in 1924 it amounted to 41,600,000 score, and owing to the high post-war prices the aggregate value was no less than 150,800,000 Kroner. The export of eggs last year was 39½ million score, value 84½ million Kroner...."

Kentucky Tobacco Markets

A Lexington, Ky., dispatch December 8 states that a crowd of more than 1,500 farmers halted the opening burley tobacco sales at Lexington December 7 at the four warehouses where they had been scheduled. The low prices, which ranged from \$10 to \$12 per hundred, compared with \$18 last year, caused the farmers' action. The report says: "The twenty-two warehouses at Lexington were filled with leaf for the opening. Estimates placed the amount on the floors at 10,000,000 pounds, more than at any first day in the history of the market. Another 2,000,000 pounds is in trucks and wagons awaiting an opportunity to unload."

An Owensboro, Ky., dispatch says: "The Owensboro dark tobacco markets, closed last Monday by farmers' demonstrations, reopened on December 7 with a small increase in prices."

A Lexington, Ky., dispatch December 9 says: "Fights, threats, demonstrations and protests against low prices caused suspensions of sales at five Kentucky tobacco markets December 8. Sales of the burley crop at Lexington, halted by farmers, were renewed without disorder, however, under the surveillance of extra police....At Hopkinsville, a dark leaf market, the auctioning was stopped when more than 1,000 growers voiced their objections. Shouts of 'You are stealing it' broke up the auction at Greensburg after 45,000 pounds of burley had been sold at from \$1 to \$24.50 per hundred, the average being between \$7 and \$8. At Lebanon the growers pushed auctioneers and buyers out of a warehouse and stopped the sale."

Scientific Publication

Industrial and Engineering Chemistry for December says: "Publication underlies scientific progress. The first step after a clear definition of the problem is to make a thorough search of the literature, and it is recognized that a well-equipped library is more essential than a wide assortment of laboratory apparatus. Adequate facilities for publication also offer the scientist one of his chief compensations. This

has been stressed even by directors of great industrial laboratories, who hold that the privilege of publishing the results of research is one of the scientist's rewards....But the questions arise: Is there too much publication? Are there too many papers? In their anxiety to publish do some authors present inferior papers, and has publication been overemphasized by some of those who support research? There are never too many really good papers, just as there are never too many thoroughly trained men. We do note, however, what seems a growing tendency to excessive publication. In some academic institutions promotions appear to depend largely upon the number of titles which an individual is able to compile as an indication of his activity. This, together with the desire for priority, in some cases leads to immature papers, to a number of brief discussions which might better be combined into a piece of finished work, and to the reporting of points which, after all, are minor....We realize that in all these cases there is a fine median ground where we could easily come to agreement. But it is beginning to be obvious that, if all the really worthy papers are to find space, some more definite standards of publication should be established and maintained. Reasonable completeness of work would eliminate a succession of papers, each dealing with parts of a problem...."

Section 3Department of
Agriculture

The Wall St. Journal for December 9 says: "That American agriculture must curtail its production to meet a diminished market was stressed by Secretary Arthur M. Hyde of the Department of Agriculture in his Annual Report. His pronouncement on this subject is perhaps the most vigorous that has come from any official of the administration excepting, of course, the Federal Farm Board. At the same time, Mr. Hyde rejected the idea of a uniform acreage reduction, once so popular with the board, and took a different attitude toward the objects and methods for bringing about the curtailment of farm production than has been taken here before. While believing that there appears to be a permanently-lessened market abroad for American farm products, particularly wheat, the Secretary acknowledged that there are some kinds of farm products which the United States farmer can and should continue to sell in export markets. He opposed compulsory acreage reduction as a means of bringing about the curtailment and advised against a sudden shift from an export to a domestic basis of production...."

Section 4 MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

Dec. 9.--Livestock prices at Chicago: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers, steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$7.50 to \$12.25; cows, good and choice \$3.25 to \$5; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$6.50 to \$9.50; vealers, good and choice \$5.25 to \$7; feeder and stocker cattle, steers, good and choice \$4.75 to \$6. Heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$4.15 to \$4.30; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$3.75 to \$4.15; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$3 to \$3.75 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$5.50 to \$6.25; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$4 to \$5.

Grain prices: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis $66\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to $69\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.2 red winter, Chicago $55\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; St. Louis $56\frac{3}{8}$ ¢ to $57\frac{5}{8}$ ¢ (Nom.); Kansas City $53\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.2 hard winter, Kansas City $47\frac{3}{4}$ ¢ to $49\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ (Nom.); No.3 mixed corn, Chicago $37\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ (New); Minneapolis $40\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to $41\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City $36\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to $38\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.3 yellow, Chicago $36\frac{3}{4}$ ¢ to $38\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ (New); Minneapolis $43\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to $44\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; St. Louis $36\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to $37\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City $38\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to $40\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.3 white oats, Chicago $24\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to $26\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Minneapolis $25\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to $26\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; St. Louis $25\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to $25\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Kansas City $26\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to $28\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

Maine sacked Green Mountain potatoes ranged $80\frac{1}{2}$ ¢-\$1.15 per 100 pounds in eastern cities; $43\frac{1}{2}$ ¢- $45\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ f.o.b. Presque Isle. New York sacked Round Whites $90\frac{1}{2}$ ¢-\$1 in the East; $70\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ f.o.b. Rochester. Wisconsin sacked stock $80\frac{1}{2}$ ¢- $85\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ carlot sales in Chicago; $60\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ f.o.b. Waupaca. New York and Midwestern yellow varieties of onions brought \$1.50-\$2 per 50-pound sacks in consuming centers with f.o.b. sales \$1.50-\$1.85 at Rochester and \$1.50-\$1.75 at west Michigan points. New York Danish type cabbage closed at \$16-\$25 bulk per ton in terminal markets; \$14-\$15 f.o.b. Rochester. Wisconsin Danish type retrimmed \$25 in St. Louis; \$16-\$17 f.o.b. Racine. Texas Round Type \$1.75-\$3.25 per western lettuce crate in a few cities. New York Rhode Island Greening apples, No.1, $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches up, \$1.12 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢-\$1.25; Wealthys $75\frac{1}{2}$ ¢-\$1; McIntosh \$1.37 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢-\$2 and Staymans and Romes $75\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per bushel basket in New York City; Baldwins $80\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ f.o.b. Rochester. Virginia Jersey type sweet potatoes $90\frac{1}{2}$ ¢-\$1.75 per stave barrel in city markets. Maryland and Delaware stock $40\frac{1}{2}$ ¢- $90\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per bushel hamper in the East. Tennessee Nancy Halls $75\frac{1}{2}$ ¢- $90\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ in Chicago.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in the ten designated markets declined 7 points to $5.57\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. On the corresponding day one year ago the price stood at $9.29\frac{1}{2}$ ¢. December future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 10 points to $5.85\frac{1}{2}$ ¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 4 points to $5.87\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, $30\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; 91 score, $29\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; 90 score, $28\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, $13\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to $15\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Single Daisies, 14 to $14\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Young Americas, $14\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to $14\frac{3}{4}$ ¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

